Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

U.S. Interests Section Actions 'Interference'

FL2207112988 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] The Cuban Foreign Ministry has issued the following declaration:

Last 15 July, the U.S. Interests Section, continuing its policy of encouragement and support to the groups [grupusculos] that carry out activities against the revolution, organized a meeting at the home of one of the officials of that Interests Section with about 20 ex-counterrevolutionary prisoners and enemies of our process in which the majority of U.S. diplomats accredited in Cuba, headed by their chief, Mr John Taylor, participated.

During the meeting, the U.S. officials dedicated themselves to advising these antisocial elements what their actions should be during the announced visit to Cuba by a delegation of the UN Human Rights Commission which has been invited by our government to observe the situation with regard to these rights in our country. This was subjective, and intended to promote a deformed image of Cuban reality.

It is not true, as the U.S. State Department would later allege, that the U.S. Interests Section in Havana organized a diplomatic activity in which diplomats, officials, and also members of the so-called Committee for Human Rights participated. The 15 July meeting was organized to allow the U.S. diplomats to instruct their counterrevolutionary servants, and it was not a normal diplomatic activity.

This activity is an interference in the internal affairs of Cuba and a gross provocation that completely strays from the functions expected to be carried out by the U.S. Interests Section in our country and for which it enjoys all facilities offered by our government.

This U.S. Interests Section action is in frank contradiction to the respectful conduct of the Cuban diplomats in Washington who traditionally have abstained from intervening in one way or the other in matters that could be interpreted as interference in the internal affairs of the United States.

The Government of Cuba has decided to express its protest to the U.S. Government for this provocation and, as a demonstration of its displeasure, has canceled the travel permits to our country for a group of people who wanted to visit the Interests Section, which included a member of Congress, Representative Dan Mica.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations expects that, in the future, the officials of the U.S. Interests Section will abstain from carrying out activities of this nature and reiterates that they should reflect on the consequences of actions that are inadmissible and which will not be tolerated by our authorities.

ANPP Discusses License Plate Problem

FL2107021588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1727 GMT 18 Jul 88

[Proceeding "highlights" from the 1st day of the National Assembly of the People's Government (ANPP) third session held the Palace of Conventions in Havana on 18 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Transportation Minister Diocles Torralba, shown speaking from his seat in the audience, identified by ANPP Acting President Severo Aguirre] Comrades: Regarding the license plate issue, at this time we have circulated the new motor pool regulation and the bill for the implementation of fines for the improper use of state cars. In reality, after the implementation of the measure, we have continued to make systematic checks, inspections, etc. We have continued to identify vehicles and issue warnings. Undeniably, however, improper use of cars still takes place.

It must be said that this has dropped quite a bit, especially in areas where the measure has already been implemented. It has not been implemented at the enterprise system that uses blue license plates. The decree-law addresses the implementation of fines for the improper use of vehicles. We make inspections, controls, and checks, and inform organizations. There are always a number of cars that are used improperly. What we do is issue warnings.

Recently, this bill was discussed with reference to fines. We believe this is the same thing as the traffic code. If you do not impose fines on the one who is using the car improperly, we will spend our lives giving advice. The decree will be published soon so that the appropriate organizations can apply the fines. According to our proposals, they are pretty harsh.

Regarding the implementation of the measure in a comprehensive manner, the enterprise system has not been included yet. We have made three alternate proposals for the implementation of the measure in the enterprise system which are going to be discussed in September in order for the enterprise system to be included in the decision-making process. Of some 70,000 vehicles which were involved in this, some 28,000 from the enterprise system still need to be included. An analysis has been made with various options to sell or not sell, creation of motor pools, etc. Actually, it is pretty complex in the enterprise system. There are a number of sections in agriculture and the sugar industry in which officials live far away, and go home at night. Thus, special passes will have to be given to a large number of officials. The study has been completed, submitted, and is awaiting a decision.

On this it has to be said that the country's top leadership has always believed that state vehicles not in use should not be sold and should be transferred to the motor pool system.

There is also the problem of many organizations that are so spread out and cannot take the vehicles to motor pools. The study of the situation and the technical conditions of the vehicles were reported so that a final decision can be made.

I believe the fundamental thing is that the decree-law imposes fines on all who use a state vehicle improperly. It is undeniably true that there are many such cases.

In the inspection operations we make on holidays, at night, etc, cars are identified, the information is sent to the organizations so that measures can be taken, organizations uncover them.... [changes thought] I believe that [words indistinct] of the budgeted system, this has improved considerably although violations unquestionably take place and severe sanctions need to be applied so that the measure does not lose its effectiveness. In the rest of the system—in enterprises—the implementation of the measure has not begun yet. We cannot dispute the fact that there is irritation, that people believe the situation continues to be the same in all enterprises that use blue license plates.

Regarding the mileage problem the comrade mentioned, we believe that a big step forward has been taken. Some 15 million pesos were saved in mileage with the current system as compared to the previous one. Regarding what was said about state cars being used more than private ones, mileage regulations prohibit anyone who drives a state car being given mileage for using a private vehicle. Therefore, if this happens... [changes thought] The State Committee for Finance has been systematically controlling this because mileage claims used to be approved by the organizations' administrative management. Now the approval of mileage claims is made at the finance minister level. So, not even ministers can approve mileage claims. Mileage claims have been reduced by one- third. Anyone who operates a state car cannot get mileage for his private car. Mileage claims have been reduced by some 8,000 [unit not specified] compared to previous claims in the budget system. The new mileage claim system has saved some 15 million pesos. Someone who has a state car cannot get mileage for a private car. So, if such a case exists it is a violation because it is forbidden to claim mileage when an official is using a state vehicle.

We believe that the third stage of this measure will be implemented in September. This is the one that is still pending. [passage omitted]

[Aguirre] The transportation minister has explained the measures which will be taken, the ones that have already been taken and those that are going to be implemented beginning in September. However, if there is any comrade who wants to continue talking about the matter.... [leaves sentence unfinished]

[Castro] I am going to say something. I believe that of all the measures taken at the time, the most complex one, the most complicated one of all, was this one, including its practical implementation. I was always very suspicious about this measure. I discussed it over and over because I thought it was too complex, for it was based on the principle that cars were going to be sold and that the sale of cars would result in a large fuel savings. The argument was to save fuel in cases where a person has a private car and the state gives him one and all that.

I believe there has been much abuse in this regard. Who knows how long that measure was discussed. Finally, all the sponsors of the measure said it was a comprehensive thing, that it worked, that it was good, that it was necessary, and that it was convenient. Later, in practice, many things were seen. Some of the measures even clashed with some practical realities. Among other things, there weren't enough cars because if they sold a car they then had to look for a number of cars for (?motor pools) and there weren't enough cars for all that. It was much more complex in other cases.

For example, what were they going to do with all those vehicles at the Agriculture Ministry, since working conditions at the Agriculture Ministry are totally different from working conditions in the countryside. On the other hand, if the general principle was applied, cars, jeeps, etc, had to be sold to officials. I thought it was totally outrageous that specialized equipment for agricultural work was sold to private citizens.

So, after implementation of the measure began, it turned out that it had all kinds of problems. It can be seen that it was not well thought out, and that it was based on certain premises which were not applicable, for example, coming up with the number of vehicles to replace the cars that were going to be sold. If this has come up here, I believe that all those who know something about it and the problems that exist should explain them. Because the measure has created confusion and I suspect that [words indistinct] the formulas that are being prepared are going to [words indistinct] and that we are going to have constant confusion on this. I believe we should not deal with the problem lightly; we should talk about cases of violation taking place, the circumstances under which they are taking place, and whether there are cases that are the result of a need.

I have found comrades gathered at 2300, 0200, 0300 in the morning. I have inquired, and they are technicians, people with important jobs, planners. I have asked: How is the measure working out with these people? Not all jobs are the same. With some jobs you get out at a certain time and with others who knows at what time you get out. They have to make exceptions and each of those exceptions is going to bring confusion. Because even if they have a permit, people don't see the permit an individual has entitling him to go home in the car for any given reason. They are going to think that there is a violation and it is going be the constant reason for irritation because it looks like abuse.

We should be able to see where abuse takes place and where there is a real need. I believe a problem is not dealt with properly by having two or three people talk about it or by telling stories of what is said in the streets, as the comrade did. This is not a serious way of dealing with a

problem. There will always be stories of that type or another. But why don't we see what the problems consist of? Why don't we make the distinction between a violation and a need? I imagine a need should be a case in which it is absolutely necessary to give out a permit so that the person is at a certain place with a car. If not, all exceptions will look like violations. I do not think a system in which exceptions look like violations is good.

Why don't we discuss this matter a little bit more? We have comrades from the provinces here, people's government presidents, individuals from organizations. We have inspectors here. We should hear what is really happening with this, what the practical difficulties in the implementation of the measure are and what the exceptions are, including the reasons for the exceptions. Based on this, individuals who are violating them will have to be harshly sanctioned or assessed a very large fine to somehow put end to this abuse. But in this case abuse will be confused with exceptions, with practical measures taken because of certain needs. So, since we have brought up this point I believe we should discuss it. It is true this is something that must be having an effect on public opinion and creating irritation. Always, in any circumstance, this type of problem brings irritation. This is an important political problem. Why don't we discuss it more and go deeper into the matter? I propose that this be discussed further, and that we not have two or three more people talk about it, turn the page, and go on with something else.

[Aguirre] Deputies, you have the floor. The invitation is open to study in depth this problem which affects us all because it comes from all directions. Who wants the floor?

[Medina] Francisco Luis Medina, deputy for the Pinar del Rio municipality. I wanted to talk about this point being discussed because it has touched me pretty closely. I am a state transportation inspector for Pinar del Rio Province. I have found truly pitiful cases regarading the use and exploitation of motor pool cars. I have done all kinds of operational work, such as publishing an article in the newspaper GRANMA, official organ of our party, in which I presented a number of irregularities in the use and exploitation of these vehicles. These irregularities filled me with indignation mainly when I received groundless and senseless responses from various organizations. I demanded that measures be taken with these kinds of violators.

I have stopped cars in Playa and asked them for their documents. They either have outdated documents or none at all. Sometimes they have them up to date and I have followed the cars on motorcycle, only to see the vehicle going to a place different from the route they are supposed to take. In sum, I believe there is negligence and lack of demands in the control and implementation of the measure by comrades who are responsible for implementing it. I say that a solid and strong set of rules which authorize state inspectors to take direct measures with violators is needed so that we do not have to wait for the response of their leaders or officials who ultimately do not tell us anything. This is what I wanted to explain.

[Aguirre] It would be good if you said what those organizations tell you, because you say they say this or that but don't specify what they tell you.

[Medina] Well, they give me different kinds of responses. They tell me that the comrade was going to [words indistinct] because of work and he had to go to a certain meeting. They are superficial kinds of responses but when I later followed the comrade—because I followed the vehicle for a few days—I later saw the car parked in front of his home in violation of the rules one more time. I inspected it again, made another report, and the response was the same. So, there is indolence regarding the implementation of the measure by those responsible for carrying it out.

[Aguirre] Provincial [assembly] presidents are here. It would be a good thing for them to speak up also. Fidel has invited them to talk. They can express their views. The first to speak is [Pedro] Chavez, president of the Havana Province.

[Chavez] Yes, I believe this problem, as it is being presented here, is a complex one. It has to be looked at in two stages. First, the situation of violations, the violations of what is established although—as it has been said here—rules and regulations are still needed. We have to look at what has been done. The comrade member of the commission who spoke explained the motor pool cars inspection the Transportation Ministry carried out in April. We have to say that in our case, in the capital, we implemented a set of measures, and above all of concrete actions, which, in my opinion, have been effective. They have been recently confirmed by inspections we have carried out and also by sampling we have personally done specifically in motor pools, and especially with regard to activities directly under the people's government—which have quite a few—because they have the municipalities' budgeted units, of the administrative management, and also of the province. The measures have been effective. They fluctuate from sanctions to replacement.

In all cases—especially when they are detected in a non-authorized place such as a recreational center, a beach, which is logically not authorized—there is no excuse. This is because the ones transporting some foreigners, foreign technicians, are marked with a sign that says protocol. They are very well marked. They are red but have a sign that says protocol. Unfortunately, they ended up with red license plates. But the ones marked with protocol take technicians. Technicians need to be taken to beaches for their enjoyment. This is properly authorized. A generalization can be made because they have the same color. Perhaps this was the mistake we made. Colors apparently were not chosen adequately.

I want to tell you that measures have been taken and are considered on a case by case basis. Replacements have been made. I can cite examples; there have been cases of drivers who have incurred violations. Measures are taken with the driver; he is replaced. But measures are also taken with the one responsible for the vehicle who logically is supposed to make sure these things don't happen. Sometimes the measures are

harsh but we would rather be strict to avoid precisely the kind of public opinion we are aware of. This is based on precisely what the comrade was explaining. This is the response we gave. We nformed all administrative management members, all budgeted units, all those who use vehicles that those are the actions and measures that will be implemented until the regulations come out. This is the way we have handled things. I repeat, measures are applied to drivers and even comrades who are leaders. I should tell you that in this sampling and inspection we recently carried out, no cases were detected. We believe it is not a problem at this time.

On the issue of practical problems, certainly there are some. There are leaders who need transportation because of the responsibilities they have, because they do not have a set schedule, and because they need to be available at any time. They have to be available on a Saturday or Sunday because of the responsibilities they have and the tasks they carry out. Sometimes we have to [words indistinct]. We solve the problem in one way or another, sometimes wi h a permanent motor pool driver who can pick up the comrade, other times with some other comrades who can locate them. We even have a practical problem with some leaders who have communication services in their vehicles and cannot be reached through them on Saturdays, Sundays, or at night.

Because of their tasks, the practical problems which come up every day in a city such as ours, those comrades are needed to act, to fulfill their tasks at any time, at night and before dawn. We have these practical problems. We can also note what was pointed out here regarding some technicians and specialists. Practical problems come up. What we do is find a comrade to take him, someone who can pick him up. Cooperation, collaboration, and coordination have been encouraged so that an official with yellow license plates can be (?transported) in order for him to fulfill his tasks or so he can be transported at night, before dawn, or on holidays. These are practical problems.

On this matter of blue license plates, they were detected during the sampling we mentioned. The blue license plate problem has not been solved as it was explained here. We believe this problem urgently needs to be settled. It presents the practical problems we have mentioned and we agree with the idea that cars cannot be sold. State enterprise cars cannot be sold. We do not have other vehicles to replace them, as was explained here. Cadres will have to make sacrifices, especially because they may not be able to go to certain recreational centers on their vacation days and on weekends even though they are subjected to a rigorous schedule, to great responsibilities. They will be limited in this type of activities. We do believe cars cannot be sold. This is the assessment we have made. They will have to rely on motor pools, the enterprise, or the unit to which he is assigned. This regards cars.

With reference to pick-up trucks, vans, and other types of vehicles that are not designed to transport leaders but provide certain services or transport certain equipment, it has also been instructed that the vehicle cannot circulate. It is not authorized to circulate on holidays, on off days, or at night. These are some of the measures we can explain for the benefit of the comrades attending the meeting.

[Passage omitted] [Aguirre] I don't see that there is much eagerness to speak. Nevertheless, two have asked for turns to speak. One is Nicolas Rodriguez, and there is also another comrade who is asking to speak. We had invited, Comrade Fidel invited, those comrades who have been handling this matter and facing it every day to contribute with their views and ideas. I believe Comrade Chavez made a good contribution by speaking about the measures taken precisely in the places where there are more violations and more cars with blue license plates, which is in Havana. IN spite of this, I believe we can continue the discussion. The discussion will enlighten us and enable us to solve this problem.

[Rodriguez] Nicolas Rodriguez de Leon. I believe we should consider two important things because there is really a serious situation regarding leaving the cars parked. I believe no study was carried out on the sale of vehicles. I think things were done in every which way. Sales started. There have been cases in which cars have been sold to managers who at times, after 6 or 7 months, were unable to continue with the position and ended up with a car. This has happened quite a bit. Five or six have not been able to continue with their position and the result is that a manager leaves the position with a car.

The second thing is that things were said about cars with blue license plates. But who has those blue license plates? People with responsibilities who have to prevent this from happening, who have to enforce this. What specifically happens is that the one who has to enforce this is the first one who goes and does not leave the car parked, until our leaders do not have the necessary awareness that that car... [changes thought] then he has to take a bus the same way a worker does. I totally agree with the commander that when a leader ends up working until 0100, he should go. But why can't he go home in a bus at 1900? We are marking the anniversary of Che's 60th birthday. Che also taught us to enforce. What happens is that there are times in which it is more convenient to go home and pick up the family and... [changes thought] It was said a while ago, go to Pinar del Rio during vacation time and see how many cars from Havana you find. They take their wives to see the children. The car was assigned for work and not to transport the family and solve personal problems, and people should have that awareness. This is what happens.

Let's not conduct more studies and create new systems. Let's tell the people clearly that when a resolution is approved it needs to be complied with. There is not enough consciousness. I believe this is where we have to start. Let's not only enforce fines; let's find out who the violators are. Because the one who violates the measure is the first one who tells the small driver that he has to park his car and makes demands. But he is the first one who leaves with the car. Because we have gotten used to having a car and sitting

in very good offices. We have forgotten about the humility and simplicity every manager should have, as our commander in chief has shown us with his example.

[Unidentified speaker] We have several municipal government presidents who used (Niva) cars or rural jeeps. When the system was created it was proposed these comrades should not purchase cars. They do not live at the center of the municipality. They live on the outskirts, sometimes 20 km away. The president needs to have information for a number of reasons; he is the chief of the Civil Defense in the municipality, chief of the general staff in the municipality; he needs to have certain mobility and does not have it. This also happens with some directors who have the same situation.

I believe these are matters that, in addition to the things stated here by the other comrades who have spoken, should be taken into account in order to establish a car system that avoids all those remarks and lets people work without problems. In this way, people will work more and will be more productive in their jobs. This is all.

[Castro] What is happening now with that (?municipal president) who logically [words indistinct]. What happens? What does he do?

[Speaker] That president has to leave the car at the motor pool and goes home. It is inconvenient if he has to return due to any emergency. He cannot come back quickly when he is needed because buses do not operate at that time. He cannot take the car with red license plates.

[Castro] Diocles, what are you going to do with farm managers, [words indistinct]. We are already facing five alternatives. I would like to know what those alternatives are. Does any of them include the sale of the car?

[Torralba] No.

[Castro] None of them.

[Torralba] It was decided not to sell them.

[Castro] Well, at least the six [number as heard] have something good if the car is not sold. I said if something such as that ever happened... [changes thought] When it had its intellectual authors, its defenders... [changes thought] This measure has been discussed for years, but on the basis of the idea of selling the car because selling the car meant saving more fuel. Fuel being consumed could now be saved. I don't know if someone has figured out how much fuel was saved with this measure. I said it would have been better to send all those cars that were sold for scrap metal. Perhaps much more fuel would have been saved. So you don't plan to sell any state car.

[Torralba] No, there are no plans to sell.

[Castro] So, why are there so many alternatives?

[Torralba] It is because of the technical state of the equipment, its age, [words indistinct]...

[Castro, interrupting] So, what is the conclusion? Do you send them to Antillana de Acero?

[Torralba] No, they go to the motor pool because there are no more.

[Castro] The situation is difficult if they are not sent to Antillana de Acero.

[Torralba] They are the same ones enterprises have now. Commander, what happened is that we conducted a study. We cannot be held responsible for the possible problems production may experience. So we have written in black and white everything that [words indistinct] the pros and cons of an alternative because in this case, production can be affected. In the rest of the system bureaucracy can be affected, there may be problems with papers, etc. There can be production problems here. There can be uneasiness here because there can be technicians—not the president of the people's government—an artificial insemination technician, or chief of a dairy, of the [words indistinct], or of a fertilizer establishment who feels he has been affected, who has to ride the bus, who arrives late. This is a more complex thing because it affects production directly.

What we have done is to provide all the options so that a decision is made always based on the principle of not selling. But I believe that even though cars are not sold, they need to be assigned to the motor pool and be used for scrap metal in order to be able to implement this measure.

[Castro] But Comrade Diocles, where are the cars for the motor pool?

[Torralba] What?

[Castro] Where are they? Cars need to be assigned to the motor pool but where are they? (?Are you going to) get them from France, England, Japan, or where? With what? You invented the entire system.

[Torralba] No. I inherited the invention when it was already on its way. [laughter] This started in 1981.

[Castro] [Words indistinct] A routing slip was placed and you went on with it.

[Torralba] But Commander, I believe, I believe [repeats] that, anecdotes aside, progress has been made.

[Castro] I doubt we have found a total solution to the problem. This is very complicated.

[Torralba] Super complicated.

[Castro] It is extremely complicated.

[Torralba] This is why we took 6 years in dealing with it.

[Castro] This is also why you assigned to everyone license plates with the same color and there is a mess. I am sure some progress has been made. I am not saying the contrary, since there was a complete mess with blue license plates. Now the mess is not as generalized. There are more problems with cars with blue license plates which are precisely the ones that are not regulated. But we have gotten into this.

The problem is to figure out how to straighten this out, how to correct it. There will always be problems. An individual is exempted—they will say this individual has a car—and maybe he is someone's boss who lives 10 km away. The man does not live close to work and has no other means of transportation. In sum, we are involved in an attempt to regulate something that is pretty complicated.

Some comrades have talked here about what bothers them the most. Some comrades have said they are not bothered to see a cadre working. Many comrades [words indistinct] and we need people who work night and day. We have to expect people to work night and day. We have to expect cadres to work night and day. Because we need efficiency in production, we need to solve problems of production and services.

Sometimes I think about contingents. I think about contingents. [repeats himself] I don't even dare to think what the situation is for a contingent chief who works 14 hours. I imagine he starts working in the morning and sometimes it is 2200 and... [changes thought] Sometimes we call him. We say: Please get so and so and I wonder how he gets here. What is the situation of these people who are called to come at 2100 and sometimes finish at 0100? How have they come? How have they been picked up? It is true that I see this happen in everyday work. We are interested in work.

We are interested in two things. We are interested in public opinion and in work. We are not demagogues. We should not be afraid of doing the things we have to do, the things that need to be done. Just because there are a few people who start to engage in slander, don't tell me (?that is going to stop you.) We need to find out the things that are not done correctly. How are we going to detect them? I am glad some comrades from the people's government have spoken here because they face this problem every day. I understand that it is easier to solve the problem in Sancti Spiritus than in Havana. Havana is a giant world full of license plates of all colors and it is full of all kinds of people. One can tell that some comrades are studying the problem and it appears that they have controlled the problem somewhat. They still say blue license plates continue to cause headaches.

I believe that a decision must be taken once and for all regarding blue license plates. Diocles, have you discussed this at the Executive Committee? Why don't you submit it to the wise analysis of the Executive Committee people?

[Torralba] Commander, this has been discussed by the Executive Committee more than 10 times. More than 10 times because there are many opinions. The measure is very complex. The last thing that needs to be done....

[Castro, interrupting] There is no consensus at the Executive Committee?

[Torralba] No, no. There is consensus on the measure but not various related aspects. Because this does not only involve motor pools. It also involves the regulation of gas, since the regulations for gas need to be changed. Three problems were discussed in the last meeting. The law-decree and the motor pool regulations were already circulated. The one that is going to be discussed in September is the part regarding blue license plates in the enterprise system.

[Castro] I wanted those who have problems to speak up here. Because it is easy to make incendiary speeches at the National Assembly or any place where a few people meet. Many times it is even cute. Sometimes it can win you applause. I was worried that incendiaries would speak. I call incendiaries those who see the problem in a very simplistic way. They would speak the way the man of the Prado corner or around Central Park—who is not very well informed about things—would speak. I was worried that those who are involved in things would not speak. Because they are involved with certain tasks [words indistinct] to say: I have this and that kind of problem in order to get to the point. It is not a matter of making a great speech, but of finding a great solution. We have to find a solution to this complex problem here. I say it is the most complicated one of all measures. The way I see it, it is as complex as the housing law. It is very complicated because of the things it has brought about.

We approved the measure at a time when a decision had to be made. The authors, the sponsors at the Executive Committee, everywhere... [changes thought] Because I met with the Executive Committee to analyze each and every one of the measures and I remember this one that I have the most doubts about. I saw, I felt, I smelled, that this was the most complex one. But all the authors, sponsors, and supporters of the measure said: This is great, this is going to save such and such. Well, the measure which had been studied for many years was approved. It was intended to establish order; that is right. And above all, to save fuel. Fuel had to be saved; this was one of the most urgent things. This was the most complicated one. But we are already involved in it and now what we need to do is to find solutions.

We need for all those intelligent people who are present here to think, to consider it. Unfortunately, I don't even know what a routing slip is. I hear about routing slips and think: What in the hell is that? What does a routing slip look like? What do you write on it? How do you write on it, and who writes? Is it the driver, the one who drives the car? Does he have to stop at each corner to... [changes thought] What bureaucratic piece of nonesense have we created? Often times we invent things that later require thousands of people to handle them. I do not know what a routing slip is. I am

ignorant, but I have heard about it. Those who know about routing slips, what do you think? Those who know about violations, what do you think? Unfortunately, I don't go to many of those places and therefore I don't know how many license plates... [changes thought] Well, when I have gone to a beach with visitors or when I go around to see how things are going, I always try to see how many cars with blue license plates there are. It is a habit. I imagine many comrades do the same. I check how many vehicles with license plates that are not supposed to be there I can see. It is a habit. I did get to see some. When I went around Santa Maria I could see some.

The ones who have better opportunities, more chances of seeing what is happening—I believe many of you are voting district delegates—think, think [repeats himself]. It is not a matter of shocking or traumatizing this meeting with tragedies but to help it with views, solutions, and formulas. Therefore, I propose [applause] therefore, I propose [repeats himself] that if we see four measures are lacking, we implement as soon as possible those four measures—the fines, everything—after studying them as much as possible and trusting the collective wisdom of the Executive Committee.

After we have studied the implementation of the four measures, perhaps in September, I propose that once more in this meeting—since this is a problem with political repercussions and comes up every day, everywhere—this distinguished meeting discuss again this humongous license plate problem. Severo, we can begin discussing this in the next session when we are fresh, in the morning, with clear heads; not on the second day, at the last minute, but the first day, in the morning, which is the best time to philosophize, to think, to reflect, for all of us to think. After considering the four measures and the results, this meeting should get ready to wage the battle. There are many comrades here who are from the municipalities, the people's government, and the party. I believe that among all of us, we can find a solution to this problem, no matter how complicated it is.

We can beg our media—beg—which also sometimes likes scandal instead of analyses that are deeply and well thought out, whhch sometimes likes sensationalism—to help us, to help us [repeats himself] with explanations. To tell us the problems that exist, and to help also by warning us of problems, because many times the media warns about problems. I use it. Many times I learn about a problem from things that appear published in the press and I inform myself of things that perhaps I wouldn't learn about otherwise. We can also ask the media for cooperation in helping to inform public opinion on all the measures that are being taken in each case, and if there are exceptions, which exceptions there are and why—to benefit production or services. And if there are violations, to what point the business is tracked to those who commit all those violations. (?Violators) are really enemies of the revolution because they create (?unfavorable results), because they affect morale, because they give a poor image of everything. I imagine it has to be very painful for cadres. I know many good cadres in this country.

Haiti

Military Government Announces Job Program

FL2007214788 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] An Information Ministry press release says that the military government has adopted an action program to go into effect immediately. The program is designed to create 15,000 jobs for the most underprivileged social groups. Approximately 15 million gourdes taken from the public treasury will be used to cover all the program's expenses.

For its part, the daily LE MATIN suggests that part of this money be used to repair the road between Croix des Bouquets and Malpasse. The newspaper QUOTIDIEN DU MIDI announces a wave of forced retirements within the public administration. According to the paper, through this measure the military government intends to satisfy requests for jobs.

Emergency Projects Detailed

FL2107220888 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Unemployment affects many people here in Haiti. Many of the problems that the Haitian people are confronting stem from unemployment. [passage omitted]

In the messages he has addressed to the nation, the president of the military government, Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, has always shown his firm desire to make the country progress. A recent press release from the Ministry of Information and Coordination announced that the government was going to take some action that would have immediate effects; that 15 million gourdes had been set aside to be used to create 15,000 jobs. These jobs will be created mostly in the sectors of education, agriculture, and public works.

Yesterday we went to the Commissariat for National Promotion and Public Administration and met with an official who is going to give us more details regarding these 15,000 jobs. Let's listen.

[Begin recording] [Price Padille] [Passage omitted] The month of October [month when school starts and parents are in need of cash] is coming up fast, and many people need jobs.

As you know, we lost many private sector jobs because of a series of problems. Thus in order to compensate, the military government decided to see what it could do about this situation, despite its meager economic and financial means. That's why the general spoke of implementing a program with immediate effects.

To this end, the Commissariat drafted a document considering the government's request. The Commissariat tried to see how it could use the money we were able to get from the public treasury, which is not much—15 million gourdes—to create jobs.

We tried to see what sectors we could create these jobs in, and we found that it was in the sectors of public works, agriculture, and educational buildings. So we divided these 15 million gourdes among 6 programs.

There are 1.919 million gourdes for agriculture, some 1 million gourdes for education, and about 2.663 million gourdes for public works. There is also some money for regional action programs, which are to take into consideration a series of small projects for the local populations. These are projects that were begun a long time ago but never finished. Thus, the government is going to try to (?allocate) money to finish these projects. Among these are projects for administrative complexes, construction of marketplaces, and related works.

So there is some money for public works, as I said; some for regional action, as I said; some for the population's complaints. This is a program that is going to continue. And, of course, there is some money to finish projects that are already almost finished, 99 percent finished.

Thus, we tried to get some money to start up a few more projects and distribute more jobs in the interior of the country.

Also, (?some of the money will be used for) programs to be carried out within the urban community of Port-au-Prince, so we can help the urban community do a series of things that need to be done but for which there was no money.

So, it is essentially these six programs that we have at present.

As to the agricultural program, aspects to take into consideration are dredging and maintenance of irrigation canals, putting certain irrigation systems back into use, and protecting river banks to the benefit of [words indistinct]. Also, they are going to come up with some anti-erosion structures to counter the erosion problem to some degree.

[Reporter Jean-Marie Ferrari] As regards agriculture, will it be profitable for the government, or is it social action?

[Padille] Actually, profitability is not a systematic issue from an economic point of view—in fact, irrigation systems are actually profitable. I mean, there are a series of systems that don't work. These systems will be made to work. Thus, inevitably, (?they will be profitable) in that the people's agricultural production will increase, in keeping with the degree to which (?these systems are repaired).

Also, there is another program in connection with agriculture about which we have not spoken at all: a program of distribution of pigs to certain peasant families all over Haiti. We won't see the effects of this immediately, like in the other programs we just mentioned, such as the dredging of irrigation canals. But after a certain amount of time, the peasants who are going to receive these pigs will be able to improve the economic situation of their households, from the family point of view. [end recording]

Thus a series of projects will be quickly carried out, as you just heard Mr Price Padille, who is the coordinator of the office of the Commissariat for National Promotion and Public Administration, tell Jean-Marie Ferrari, one of our colleagues from the newsroom. [passage omitted]

Pro-Namphy Demonstrations Held 14-17 Jul

FL1907150088 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 18 Jul 88

[Excerpts] There were demonstrations of support for Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, president of the military government, not only in the vicinity of Anse-a-Veau; we have also learned that there were others over the weekend in the central plateau. The people were proving their affinity with and love for President Lt Gen Namphy.

For 3 days—14-16 July—the population of three towns in the central plateau—Maissade, Thomassique, and Cerca La Source—all took to the streets to show their support for President Namphy. During those 3 days the people sang their approval of Lt Gen Namphy's coming to power.

In Maissade on 14 July, 10 traditional musical groups, the kind of group known as "rara," gathered on the town square in front of the headquarters of the military subdistrict, creating a good atmosphere and celebrating in the name of Gen Namphy. [passage omitted] They went up and down all the streets in town chanting slogans in praise of the head of the military government. [passage omitted] [Later in the same newscast, Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole reports that a pro-Namphy demonstration was also held on Sunday, 17 July, in Petite Riviere de Nippes]

CATH Statement, Union Activity Reported

FL2107154288 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] According to the latest declaration from the CATH, the Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers, the system set up to suck the blood of the factory workers dry is getting tougher day by day. Union activity is crippled in certain plants, whereas in others, the workers most involved in union activity are under attack. They are being fired in groups.

What kind of help are the workers getting? According to CATH, almost none at all. People are in cahoots against them everywhere.

At Haiti Fashion, the manager mocked the workers, telling them the Constitution has had it and the military are the only cock in the barnyard around here now. At the same factory, there are four armed men wandering around. That is why there is much anxiety among the workers there. The atmosphere in the workplace is not normal.

Also, the hearing of the workers from the Athletic Equipment Plant [subsidiary of Wilson Sporting Goods], who were fired for union activity, remains a nightmare. CATH says it has many doubts, especially after the labor court judge said over the government television station that the workers fired by employers after 7 February were not fired for union activity. Thus, many of the judges have changed their stance and have come out and taken a position in favor of the employers outright.

CATH adds that plots and underhanded dealings against the working class are increasing. It asks workers to organize resistance to the pressure they are undergoing.

The path of liberation is long and difficult. All workers must set their heads squarely on their shoulders and hang on to their determination in ideas and in work until their demands are satisfied.

The workers union at (Michiko Sumi) are threatening to stop work for an hour on Friday, 22 July, if no solution is found to their conflict with the employer following the firing of seven of their fellow workers without pay. [passage omitted] If nothing is resolved, they will stop work for an hour tomorrow to warn the employer that they are not messing around.

Priests On Namphy's Plans for New Constitution

FL1907205688 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Jul 88

[Text] A group of 30 Haitian Catholic priests who work in the principal sectors of the church in Port-au-Prince have expressed their opinion about the new constitution that the general wants to give the country. According to these priests, good laws made by people, once they are out, represent the will of God for everyone. Leaders must respect these laws in order for there to be democracy, progress, peace, and respect for human rights.

Here is the message in detail.

On 29 March 1987, the Haitian people ratified a basic charter, which was to be the country's sole guide. The Haitian people knew very well what they wanted when they went out to vote on this group of laws. The Haitian people want to choose their leaders and representatives themselves. The constitution also tells these leaders and representatives what kind of government the Haitian people want to lead Haiti.

All the problems we have encountered in Haiti after this Constitution was ratified stem from the fact that the Haitian people still feel a desire on the part of certain leaders to thwart the nation's basic charter, to impose upon the nation a government from within their particular group.

A military group has seized power through force of arms in Haiti. What special circumstances led to their seizing power? This is not the question. What is certain is that they cannot hope to change the face of Haiti without giving the Haitian people a chance to choose their leaders and representatives.

The Army as an institution solemnly swore to respect the nation's constitution. However, the general who heads the military government has announced that he is going to give the nation another constitution. This is a violation, which shatters any trust the people might have had in him. Also, to violate a solemn oath like this is normally a serious fault in the eyes of God.

Does a leader have a right to say that the Constitution of 1987 became the nation's basic charter due to the raging passions of 99 percent of those who voted in favor of it? Can he, alone, give the Haitian people another constitution more in keeping with the country's realities? Won't the people, after reflection, reach the conclusion that the general wants to make his own law in order to hold on to power any way he can, without anyone coming and saying to him that he is violating some constitution?

He wants to use his power to eliminate the nation's Constitution at a single blow once and for all. Will the more than 1.5 million Haitians who ratified this constitution allow their rights to be trampled like that?

God asks them to organize in order to ensure respect for all their rights. God does not want His people being trampled underfoot. No new law replacing the Constitution can be considered valid for the Haitian people. Only fear and force can make the Haitian people submit to this law. Can the leaders speak of human rights if they take away all the most important rights that the Haitian people have?

In God's mind, the force of a law never comes from the desires of a leader, simply because power is in his hands. Neither God nor the Church can accept any abuse of power. Good laws that people have banded together to formulate apply to everyone, once the leaders have put them out, even to those who formulated them and put them out. It is God's will that everyone respect these laws.

Our problem here in Haiti to this day is that the people who are in power always consider themselves above these laws, which they wish to leave on paper only or to throw in the trashcan, so as to govern with laws that benefit their policies.

You military who have seized power in Haiti, get it into your head that you cannot set the country in motion, nor can you remove it from turmoil, nor can you speak of democracy or of respect for human rights if you persist in this plan to set the nation's Constitution aside in order to replace it with your own law. Could the people accept such a thing?

We members of the church of Jesus Christ feel it is our duty to work with all our strength to get the leaders of the Haitian people to respect all the Haitian people's rights. This is what the gospel of Jesus Christ asks.

What you just heard is a group of 30 Haitian Catholic priests who work in the principal sectors of the church in Port-au-Prince stating their position on General Namphy's plan to replace the nation's basic charter with another constitution that he is planning to write.

Dominican Embassy Denies Haitians Maltreated

FL2107213888 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] The Dominican Embassy in Port-au-Prince has denied reports to the effect that 64 Haitians are being held in an animal pen in the Dominican Republic. This was reported by the Dominican press at the beginning of the week, and gave rise, as you will remember, to a vehement protest in Haiti from the Haitian Human Rights League. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording of Oscar Padilla, Dominican ambassador to Haiti] After I heard this report over Radio Metropole, I called the Dominican foreign office, and we have found that the information received by the Haitian Human Rights League was not correct. It is true that 64 Haitian citizens were arrested in the Dominican Republic and held for approximately 2 hours, but they were released after that. It is not true that they were held in a place that is for animals. They were held in a building that is usually used for the workers of the (Monte Llano) sugar mill. [end recording] [passage omitted]

A source close to the Good Samaritan Center, which is struggling to obtain respect for Haitians in the Dominican sugar camps, has confirmed to us that the photograph of these Haitians in the animal pen appeared on the first page of the newspaper NUEVO DIARIO last week. This source also told us that the Haitian community still has no news of these compatriots.

We have also learned that other Haitians working in the sugar camp of (Sabana Grande y Boya) have been arrested and taken to the Barahona canefields.

In its note of protest against the imprisonment of these 64 compatriots in an animal pen in the Dominican Republic, the Haitian Human Rights League called on national and international agencies to ensure respect for the rights of Haitians living in the Dominican Republic. The Haitian Human Rights League also asked this country's authorities to respect their committments and apply strictly the inter-American human rights agreement they signed.

Jamaica

New Paper Fails To Appear as Scheduled

FL1907185088 Bridgetown CANA in English 1458 GMT 18 Jul 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, July 18, CANA—The JAMAICA RECORD, a new daily newspaper that was scheduled to have been launched here on Sunday, failed to appear because of what a spokesman called technical difficulties. The owners are now hoping to launch the paper next Sunday, though no firm announcement has been made.

Up to Saturday, there had been a radio and television advertising blitz announcing the coming of the RECORD, with no public hint of problems. Knowledgeable sources, however, had indicated that there had been numerous technical and organisational hitches.

Mark Ricketts, the publisher and editor of the RECORD, was quoted by THE DAILY GLEANER, which will be his main competitor, as saying that a "shortage of equipment" was the main bugbear. Not enough computer terminals were available for journalists and others to imput stories, caused by insufficient funding, Ricketts was quoted as saying.

He said banks would be approached for additional capital.

Ricketts had announced that the project was to cost J15 million dollars, but said that he had found it difficult to raise financing from banks here. He had found enough money to start the paper, he said.

Most of the investors, Ricketts told CANA, were more recently successful Jamaican business rather than from traditional business families.

Banks, which had provided only limited financing, had suggested that he include traditional business types to ensure advertising, Ricketts claimed.

Newspaper sources here said that the RECORD had some of the most up-to-date computer publishing equipment.

However, many were surprised that in the weeks leading up to the scheduled start up date that the largely young reporting staff was not on the beat regularly and there were no dry runs.

Additionally, only two days before the planned launched, workmen were still installing fixtures and equipment, including telephones.

El Salvador

Violence During UNTS Protest in San Salvador

PA2207044188 [Editorial Report] San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 22 July carries two 6-minute reports on a violent demonstration staged by members of UNTS [National Union of Salvadoran Workers] in San Salvador during the morning of 21 July.

According to the first report, at least 10 vehicles were destroyed by UNTS demonstrators before the police were able to disperse the crowd that was protesting an emergency bill [ley de emergencia]. The march was also called to demand the release of Eliseo Cordova, a member of the Social Security labor union. Private and public vehicles, traffic lights, and telephone booths were destroyed by the crowd.

UNTS leader Marco Tulio Lima blamed the workers' discontent on "the repressive attitude of the government and the Armed Forces." When asked how many people had been injured, Lima said, "at least four people have been injured in addition to women adversely affected by the tear gas."

According to the second report, the Armed Forces blamed UNTS, "which receives orders from the FMLN," for the disturbances. Coprefa spokesman Colonel Jose Galileo Torres gave the Army's version of the incidents in San Salvador. He said this is part of the " 'Fuego Plan' directed by the FMLN through its urban mass groups." Torres denied UNTS charges that the Armed Forces were holding labor union leader Eliseo Cordova, whose release was demanded by the UNTS demonstrators.

Asked about shots fired by the police, Torres replied, "they were in defense of the garrison and its men."

'Revolutionary' Violence

PA2207035088 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Thousands of Salvadorans no longer obey the law. On 21 July El Salvador, the heart of Farabundo Marti's home, witnessed actions of genuine revolutionary violence unleashed by a working class unwilling to starve to death because of repression.

More than 12 state and privately owned vehicles and several telephone junction boxes were set on fire at several places in the center of the rebellious capital after the military dictatorship attempted to scatter the participants in the demonstration inspired by the National Union of Salvadoran Workers.

When the demonstrators, with their fists held high, reached the Treasury Police headquarters to demand justice against the members of the Social Security Fund Board of Directors by holding them responsible for corruption, the police opened fire and fired tear gas, scattering the demonstrators. As the result of the shots and tear gas, four workers were wounded and others, including women and children, were overcome. Others were beaten.

The demonstrators rallied again to continue their march and respond immediately to the government's repression. In reaction, the demonstrators set fire to about 12 vehicles and telephone junction boxes [words indistinct]. The UNTS and student demonstrators converged on a square in the center of San Salvador, where they protested the repression.

The regime, which offered bullets and grenades and replied with violence to this peaceful demonstration, received a reply by the people—genuine revolutionary violence.

Government Blames Union

PA2207044288 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Statement issued by the government in San Salvador on 21 July]

[Text] The Salvadoran Government reports to the Salvadoran people the acts of vandalism carried out by UNTS members.

In view of these new acts of unjustified violence carried out by UNTS today, the government of the Republic issues a call to the citizens and the legislators to stress the need to guarantee the Salvadorans' rights through the new legal mechanisms.

Beginning at 0900 today, activist groups and UNTS sympathizers staged a protest demonstration that started at the Civic Plaza and ended at the Treasury Police installations.

According to the organizers, the reason for the march was to protest the national emergency bill and the arrest of an UNTS leader. However, [words indistinct] seemed to be ready to promote disorder and destruction from the beginning.

The demonstrators repeatedly voiced their rejection of the national emergency bill, describing it as a bill that hurts the workers' right.

However, the government wants to point out that most demonstrators were not workers but political activists who see that this bill will put an end to their harmful (?actions).

In addition, the UNTS activists [words indistinct] FMLN kept provoking the security forces. They tried to obstruct the entrance to the Treasury Police garrison.

In a preventive action, treasury policemen felt compelled to fire their service weapons into the air.

The government wants to stress to the citizens the reports that a prestigious international news agency carried. According to the reports, some demonstrators

used firearms. Those armed activists were in the rearguard of the demonstrations and, through their action, unleashed the chaos that resulted in three injured demonstrators who were victims of that chaos.

The fire plan, which the government had already reported, mentions among other things that there must be a secret self-defense and militia structure. In addition to serving as self-defense in the mobilizations of the movement, this militia must constantly be involved in propaganda missions, missions to wear out the political-military structure, and sabotage and intelligence missions. This militia apparatus must play a key role in the organization of various violent acts by the masses. We must pay great attention to the arming of these militia apparatus. Militia members must be armed with pistols, Molotov cocktails, explosives, and so forth.

Later, the demonstrators went to the clock that is made up of flowers, where they gathered again. Those who were in the vanguard proceeded to engage in acts of destruction, acts the citizens already know about.

According to reports, UNTS set 10 vehicles on fire, 3 of which were owned by a soda bottling company. The demonstrators punctured the tires of a bus, destroyed a telephone junction box, and hurled s-shaped nails [miguelitos] in such a way that one girl demonstrator was injured by one of them. She was promptly treated at the Treasury Police's infirmary.

The government categorically condemns this new attack on the interests of true Salvadoran workers, who are witnessing the threat and destruction of their means to survive by the action of these facade groups.

In addition, the government insists on the need to reinforce legal mechanisms to prevent these acts of destruction in the future.

Guatemala

Government Orders Cancellation of News Segment

PA2207044788 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 21 Jul 88 p 2

[Text] Newsman Arsenio Perez Hernandez, director of the radio news program "The Herald," aired on Radio Centroamericana, has stated that the General National Radio Broadcasting Directorate [Direccion General de Radiodifusion National] ordered the cancellation of one of that program's segments. The Directorate threatened to remove the radio's crystal.

Perez Hernandez added that the Directorate's order affects the "People's Feeling" segment featured in the four broadcasts of "The Herald" program.

He noted that Carlos Peinado leases that frequency. The Directorate sent him the letter ordering the cancellation of the above-mentioned segment. Otherwise, the crystal to broadcast will be removed, the Directorate stated.

Journalist Perez Hernandez said the order was issued by Enrique Hernandez, director of TGW [state-owned La Voz de Guatemala].

Several journalists who learned of the government measure called this office to denounce this "new attack against free expression of ideas, in the style of totalitarian regimes."

They added that "the government's ruling is comparable to the attitude of the Sandinist regime, which ordered the closing of Radio Catolica to silence the voice of the people."

The heads of the independent media announced they will issue a statement on Thursday regarding the threats against Radio Centroamericana and "The Herald" news program.

Rebels Occupy Radio Station, Broadcast Message

PA2207032888 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Four armed guerrillas briefly occupied a local radio station to broadcast a recorded antigovernment message, it was reported today.

Heraldo de Leon, program director of Radio Festival, said the guerrillas, who identified themselves as members of the clandestine Guatemalan Labor Party, occupied the building on Wednesday night.

The four rebels, who covered their faces with ski masks, scarves, and wigs, threatened to shoot the eight employees, who were locked in a room. De Leon said the rebels forced the employees to play a recorded message that lasted about 5 minutes.

I did not listen to the guerrilla's message, but according to the employees it was antigovernment, De Leon said.

Briefs

New Public Security Service

On Tuesday Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo and Defense Minister General Hector Gramajo announced that a new service to coordinate several public security functions will begin operating next week. The service will be called Citizens' Protection System [Sistema de Proteccion Ciudadana], SIPROCI. [Summary] [*PA2107011688 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Jul 88*]

Honduras

Azcona Decrees Economic Austerity Measures

PA2107192988 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1120 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Decree issued by President Jose Azcona—date and place not given]

[Text] The president is setting an example for civilians and for everyone so the country can maintain economic stability. As a result of the measures, which are truly austere and involve the state's administration, millions of lempiras will be saved.

Article 1: People responsible for the execution of approved programs and public projects must save no less than 10 percent of their budgets for the current fiscal year.

Article 2: Funds allotted for publicity and propaganda are prohibited for the entire central and decentralized public sector, except the Culture and Tourism Ministry and the Presidential Press Secretariat. Funds may also be spent for publicity and propaganda necessary for carrying out public works and services and by the general procurement offices.

Article 4 [No Article 3 as heard]: During the course of the year, any surplus funds resulting from lower expenditures in the areas of investments, capital spending, and development spending will not be transferred for any reason.

Article 5: Funds to purchase motor vehicles and office equipment during the current year will be frozen.

Article 6: The processing of payment orders to create special accounts to pay expenses such as for motor vehicles and office equipment, except when aimed at improving revenue collection, are prohibited.

Article 7: The Finance and Public Credit Ministry, through the National Computer Center, will study the availability of computer equipment and other electronic equipment. The purchase of any computers at this time is prohibited.

Article 8: The processing of payment orders to create special accounts is prohibited. Only payment orders to purchase medicine and other items approved through special laws can be processed.

Article 9: Thirty percent of the available funds will be frozen on the date these measures become effective. Travel and other expenses within the country and abroad will be frozen.

Article 10: The number of people that comprise official missions abroad must be limited, making the best use of the available personnel accredited at Honduras' various embassies and consulates abroad.

Article 11: All government and autonomous institutions' expenses for celebrations, gifts, parties, and other social activities are prohibited. Spending will be limited to those cases involving strictly essential official commitments for which prior authorization has been granted by the Finance and Public Credit Ministry.

Article 12: The use of vehicles must be strictly limited to official activities. During holidays and off-duty hours, the vehicles must remain at their respective state institutions. Failure to comply with this order will result in the General Traffic Directorate's confiscating the vehicle and imposing a fine on the offending party.

Article 13: Forty percent of the balance to date of funds allotted for the payment of emergency workers and substitutes will be frozen. Likewise, for the central government and decentralized institutions to hire emergency workers, previous authorization from the Finance and Public Credit Ministry will be required.

Article 14: Payment of overtime must be limited to necessary activities. When overtime is necessary to complete jobs that cannot be completed within the normal schedule, shifts must be established that do not exceed the legal time limits.

Article 15: During the current fiscal year, no new financial commitments will be made for the payment of scholarships abroad. Scholarships granted by the central government and decentralized institutions must be limited to the commitments made prior to the implementation of this agreement.

Article 16: The administrators of projects and programs will maintain strict control of their office equipment to prevent the use of office material and copying machines for private business. Any official or employee who does not abide by this article will be punished in accordance with the Civil Service Law. This also applies to autonomous institutions.

Article 17: Decentralized institutions that have outstanding debts with the government will use their profits to cover their debt.

Article 18: The administrators of all decentralized institutions must implement a budget control system to ensure that the austerity measures established in this decree are fulfilled.

Article 19: The Finance and Public Credit Ministry will continue to be in charge of invoice stamping, the lottery, special fiscal systems, and revenue.

Article 20: Additional personnel can be employed prior to 31 August 1988. These appointments must be justified and must be necessary for the proper operation of the institution or office. The Civil Service General Directorate will approve the hiring of new personnel.

Article 21: The use of government funds for hiring contract workers is hereby suspended. This will not apply in those cases where contract workers are needed for the implementation of new projects and programs not previously contemplated.

Article 22: Decentralized institutions will not be able to use their profits for administrative expenses. Only those expenses authorized in the budget will be allowed.

Article 23: The members of the boards of directors of decentralized institutions and ministers will be responsible for the fulfillment of these measures.

Article 24: As of the implementation of this decree, the amounts budgeted for operations of an embassy or consulate are not transferable except in special cases. The Finance and Public Credit Ministry will be responsible for determining the exceptions to this rule.

Article 25: To reduce fuel and spare parts expenses, all government and decentralized institutions will be forced to implement an effective control of all cars assigned to them.

Article 26. The Finance and Public Credit Ministry will review the budgets of the decentralized institutions and quotas payable to international organizations and adjust them to the government's available funds.

Article 27: The Finance and Public Credit Ministry is hereby authorized to draft, with the help of the government and decentralized institutions, a document explaining this agreement. The ministry must present the draft document no later than 15 days following the approval of this decree.

Article 28: The Finance and Public Credit Ministry will be responsible for the enforcement of these measures. The ministry will rule in case of doubt. All trips abroad and overtime pay must be approved by the executive branch through the Finance and Public Credit Ministry. All official trips abroad must be previously authorized.

Article 29: The measures announced in this decree must be respected by the government and decentralized institutions. This decree will become valid at the time of its publication in the official gazette.

For publication.

[Signed] President Jose Simon Azcona Hoyo

Finance and Public Credit Minister Jose Efrain Bu Giron

Finance and Public Credit Ministry official Juan Ramon Rivera

Azcona on Esquipulas, Nicaragua, U.S. Ties
PA2207015288 San Salvador TCS Television in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Jul 88

[Interview with President Jose Azcona Hoyo by Eugenio Calderon and unidentified reporter, hosts of the "Face to Face" program; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Calderon] Welcome, viewers to another "Face to Face" program. To those of you who are with us every day, this morning we will present to you Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo.

Mr President, on behalf of Channels 2, 4, and 6 of TCS Television, welcome to El Salvador and good morning.

[Azcona] Thank you very much.

[Reporter] Mr President, on 7 August 1988 it will be 1 year since the signing of the Esquipulas II agreement, which has now been considered a failure by many. What is your view on this?

[Azcona] Well, my view is that in Guatemala on 7 August 1987 we signed a document that was very difficult to fulfill. It was very difficult to fulfill, especially for the Nicaraguan Government. However, we trusted they would do everything possible to fulfill their commitments for internal democratization, which is really the most difficult part. Unfortunately, the 5 months that were stated in the document went by. We went to San Jose, Costa Rica, on 16 January 1988, and there we signed a much more compromising [as heard] document than Esquipulas II. Unfortunately, this last commitment was not fulfilled either, despite the fact that it was a much more serious one.

[Reporter] There is talk of another presidential summit on 7 August 1988. Some believe this meeting could mean an end to Esquipulas II, while others believe the presidents would be recognizing its failure if the summit meeting does not take place. Do you think this meeting will take place and, if not, what would the consequences be?

[Azcona] No, I believe there is no other option but than to seek peace. The search for peace must be based on the internal reconciliation in Nicaragua. Therefore, we must not label the 7 August meeting as the defeat of Esquipulas II. However, we must not use it to say that everything has gone well. The presidents must continue to meet and continue to broach this matter in the same way we have done throughout the year.

I believe there will be a foreign ministers meeting on 1 August in Guatemala with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. I believe this is a good opportunity for the four foreign ministers of the countries with democratic governments—and I hope the Sandinist government is not offended by this, but I believe there are some differences between our governments and the Sandinist government—to discuss ways, not to boycott or to

threaten the Nicaraguan Government, but to seek ways for this government to comply with the commitments it made in accepting the Esquipulas II agreement and ratified on 16 January in San Jose, Costa Rica.

[Calderon] Mr President, this question is related to the expulsion of U.S. diplomats from Nicaragua: What are the consequences of this action, which tends to increase the tension between the U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments?

[Azcona] I believe this is a somewhat arrogant action taken by the Sandinist government. I believe these types of actions—the expulsion of the U.S. diplomats, headed by Ambassador Melton, the closing of LA PRENSA and Radio Catolica, and the imprisonment of the Nicaraguan political leaders—have been the result of a desperate move; otherwise they only indicate much arrogance on the part of the Sandinist government. Undoubtedly, this does not contribute in any way to a national reconciliation in Nicaragua, and if there is no national reconciliation in Nicaragua, there will be no peace in Central America.

[Calderon] Mr President, what are the consequences for Honduras if more aid is sent to the contras?

[Azcona] Well, we have said it everywhere that we have had the opportunity to say it: We believe and we hope for the reconciliation of the Nicaraguan family. It is our wish because we dislike war. It has been said many times that Honduras will not attack Nicaragua and that our territory would not be used for an attack on Nicaragua. However, we do want the reconciliation of the Nicaraguan family because we believe that if there is reconciliation and democracy inside Nicaragua, it will be easier for us to maintain our country's climate of peace.

[Reporter] Does the Honduran Government support more aid for the Nicaraguan contras? In 1985 there was talk that the government supported it.

[Azcona] We believe if the aid and the pressure lead to a political solution, then it is necessary. Up to a certain point, time has proved us right. We see that after 3 February 1988, when the U.S. House of Representatives voted against more military aid for the counterrevolution, the Sandinist government, instead of opening up and instead of taking advantage of the situation to resolve problems politically, became more arrogant and began making threats and sought solutions leading to the destruction of their opponents. We believe this does not contribute much to a solution, because he who is threatened tries to defend himself and seeks ways to come out ahead.

[Reporter] Mr President, Honduras has traditionally been pointed out as one of the strongest U.S. allies in Central America. It has even been labelled as a U.S. puppet in Central America. What kind of relations does Honduras have with the United States?

[Azcona] Honduras has maintained good relations with the United States, regardless of the type of government in power. In Honduras, there have been governments in which the National Party and my party, the Liberal Party, have ruled. There have also been military governments, and we all have maintained good relations with the United States. It is not true that Honduras is a U.S. puppet. Whenever we disagree with something, we have mentioned it with dignity to the United States, and we have been successful.

We must be aware that Honduras is a small country such as El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and even South American countries. We cannot disregard the fact that even though we have our sovereignty, we are always subject to a certain influence from the United States. I can tell you more. Even West European countries are influenced by the United States, and it is expressed in many aspects. I recall that in June 1986, I was president of the Liberal Party, and I represented my party in a meeting in Toronto, Canada. Virgilio Godoy, president of the Independent Liberal Party of Nicaragua, was present in that meeting. I had the opportunity to meet with some Liberal Party parliamentarians from the FRG. They were criticizing the fact that Honduras was participating in joint military maneuvers with the United States. I told them missiles were being installed in Europe. There are joint military maneuvers in the FRG and Spain, and those are countries ruled by Social Democratic governments and are much larger countries than ours. They are even farther away from the United States than we are.

We maintain dignified relations with the United States, and we are receiving aid from them just like many countries of the world are. We are maintaining our dignity with the United States, and they have always respected us. U.S. representatives, accredited in our country, have never shown a lack of respect for us. [passage omitted]

[Calderon] Mr President, what difference will it make for Central America if Dukakis or Bush wins the upcoming U.S. presidential elections?

[Azcona] About 2 years ago, former U.S. Ambassador Robert White came to see me in Tegucigalpa. He told me: You should not try to be friends with this U.S. Administration. We are going to win the next congressional elections. Indeed, that is what happened. I was frank with him. I told him: We do not see the U.S. Government as a Republican or Democratic government. We see it as the government of the United States, regardless of whether it is a Democratic or Republican administration. Then I played a joke on him. I said to him: Look, you say you are going to win the congressional elections; that may be so. You may also win the presidential elections. However, that will not change your foreign policy. Then I jokingly said: The empire is the empire.

Therefore, I do not think there will be great changes if Dukakis or Bush wins. I personally feel the United States is interested in its security. We must not forget that Nicaragua is in the heart of America. I have also told that to President Daniel Ortega, as a friend, not as a foe. I told him in a meeting where we have talked. I have told him as a friend: Take a look at a map of America, and look where Nicaragua is located. It will be very hard for the United States, regardless of the administration in power, to let you establish a totalitarian enclave. I have told Ortega that as a friend. I do not think the U.S. elections will have major repercussions for its foreign policy. The United States will seek its security at any cost.

[Calderon] What would you propose now to solve the Central American crisis?

[Azcona] The chief element in the Central American crisis is exercising democracy without restrictions. That is the chief element. I think Nicaragua is going back to square one by taking steps against LA PRENSA and against... [changes thought] Let me tell you something; it is not easy to be president and get unfounded criticism from the press or from anyone. Rarely does a president receive praise for the good things he does. The president is always... [changes thought] You can give a 30-minute impromptu press conference. It is recorded and scrutinized. Perhaps only one or two phrases may not be sufficiently explained or properly stated. The press uses that, and that is how headlines get written. It happened to me last week. Talking about the economic situation, I said the Honduran economic situation was not critical. Since there were people who [words indistinct] in Honduras, where is the crisis? The president does not see it.

I understand that. However, for a de facto government such as the Sandinist government, it is very uncomfortable to have a press or Radio Catolica pointing every day at its mistakes. That is why Nicaragua adopted those measures. No doubt, they will have very bad repercussions. That is why I think the first thing one must do to seek social tranquillity is to respect all freedoms. We are making efforts in this respect. I think all freedoms are respected in Honduras. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Considering the presence of contras in Honduras, has the Honduran Government undertaken any actions to remove them from the country.

[Azcona] Yes, we have. The truth is that in April 1987 there were no counterrevolutionaries. Following the cut in U.S. aid, many of those people returned to Honduras. Receiving them is a humanitarian matter and so is allowing the distribution of U.S. humanitarian aid, under the supervision of the Catholic Church and an accounting firm. This is not a matter of letting a group of armed people starve to death or pose a danger to our people. [passage omitted]

Bomb Explodes Near Armed Forces Offices

PA2107162188 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1500 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Last night a very powerful bomb exploded in front of the building housing the offices of the Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate in this capital. There were no casualties.

The bomb, which was set off by a time clock, exploded at 2000 (0200 GMT), slightly damaging a military vehicle parked next to the building.

According to Colonel Manuel Enrique Suarez Benavides, director of Armed Forces public relations, "the vehicle suffered no major damage because of its strong build and the bomb's deficient construction."

The officer explained that "only one of the devices exploded, while the others were defective and did not explode because of the poor quality of the wires used to connect the clock mechanism, dry batteries, and explosives."

Suarez pointed out that "our offices are located on the fifth floor and are heavily guarded, but the exterior is not, and the terrorists took advantage of this."

The military spokesman condemned the attack and said that "it could have hurt civilians who frequent a neighboring private hospital and midlevel students of six schools located nearby."

He added: "Our office serves the public and we consider ourselves to be active members of the national press, which deserves great respect from any antisocial sector in the country."

As of now, no Honduran subversive organization has claimed responsibility for the attack.

According to Suarez, "there is evidence that the bomb was planted after a demonstration called by the Honduran People's Movement [Movimiento Popular Hondureno], which is composed of several leftist groups."

On Wednesday afternoon several labor groups carried out a demonstration to protest human rights violations and government plans to increase taxes, close public service institutions, and privatize several state companies.

Nicaragua

Borge on Reasons for Government Measures

PA2107202088 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Jul 88 p 4

[Report on "exclusive" interview with Interior Minister Tomas Borge by Gabriele Selser on 15 July—place not given]

[Text] In analyzing the current political situation in the wake of the "Melton Plan," yesterday Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge said that continuing to tolerate the escalation of actions by terrorist and right-wing

groups led by U.S. Embassy officials would have meant "the suicide of the revolution."

In an extensive exclusive interview for BARRICADA, the Nicaraguan leader discussed the legal scope of recent government measures. He maintained that although the law has been applied with flexibility, the government is acting vigorously today to reaffirm the existence of a revolutionary process that must be respected.

"We were flexible and tolerant—and I believe we should continue to be so—but not to the extreme of making the revolution surrender. That would no longer be tolerance but stupidity," he said while pointing out that "flexibility creates a greater appetite for further concessions to the point of wanting an absolute negation of the revolution."

He recalled that the Esquipulas accords created a genuine opportunity to achieve peace that led the Nicaraguan Government to seek negotiations, show understanding, "and demonstrate spontaneous and vital encouragement to adopt new and extreme flexibility" in this country. In doing so, the government gave the political opposition and even the counterrevolutionary forces a larger political opening. The Sapoa agreement was a specific reflection of that intention.

Commander Borge described recent incidents in Nandaime, in which opposition leaders sent a group to provoke the police, as part of a plan that was carefully orchestrated even before the birth of the revolution. This plan aims to destroy the popular plan. "The Santa Fe document aimed to abort and kill the Nicaraguan revolution," Borge noted.

He said that to promote domestic political destabilization in the past few months, the United States appointed a team of U.S. advisers in the country to "tend to" the counterrevolution and right-wing parties. Being more devoted to this goal than previous diplomatic representatives, Ambassador Richard Melton was sent to Nicaragua to loyally implement the plans of Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams.

Borge pointed out that other ambassadors to Managua such as Lawrence Pezzullo, Anthony Quainton, and Harry Bergold were "more objective and even respectful" of Nicaraguan law; they even tried to improve relations between the two governments. The minister added: "That is why all their reports on Nicaragua were rejected by Abrams' office, which considered them to be wet paper."

He added that after withdrawing Quainton and Bergold for those reasons, the U.S. Administration sent Melton. "He came here as a pawn to play a specific role in this macabre chess game to politically destabilize Nicaragua," Borge said.

"The difference between him and previous U.S. representatives is that others assumed correct diplomatic stands. It was not until Abrams' pawn appeared in Managua that the Yankee ambassador himself started—and not in a clandestine, careful fashion—to advise reactionary elements. He did so in an obvious, shameless, open, and defiant manner. This is unacceptable," the interior minister pointed out.

Borge added: "We are not dealing with violent application of the law but an urgent and vital need to survive. Which countries have tolerated the things Nicaragua has? What governments remain with their arms folded when demonstrations in which participants carry knives and clubs are financed by a foreign power, especially when that power is waging a war against the country?"

They Created the CPT [Permanent Workers' Congress] and the M-22 [22 January Movement of Mothers of Political Prisoners] [subhead]

He again asked: What would happen if the Nicaraguan ambassador in El Salvador were to publicly encourage the opposition to overthrow the government or if our embassy in Argentina were to ask the opposition to form a national salvation government? What measures would Reagan take if our representative in the United States were to meet with the ethnic minorities and encourage them to wage a war of blacks in U.S. territory?

Borge noted that Melton "constantly met with various sectors to plan illegal activities." This was also how the other expelled agents behaved. They obeyed the orders of Elliott Abrams who in turn acted like "the archbishop of all those priests of ignominy."

The U.S. diplomats were involved in inciting civil disobedience, directing protest marches and strikes, creating destabilization groups (such as the CPT and the M-22), and even personally participating in activities of the local right wing. Commander Borge disclosed that some days ago, some of them scouted the Juigalpa stadium where the 9th anniversary of the revolution will be celebrated on Tuesday.

Nandaime Was a Condition [subhead]

Asked about what happened in Nandaime, the interior minister charged that the U.S. Embassy financed that activity and even made future financing of the right wing conditional on the success of the Nandaime activity: "The order was that there had to be a provocation which, if possible, would end with injured and dead. If that was not achieved, the embassy would not finance the next activity, the so-called march of hunger."

The parties not only accepted that condition and that blackmail but they also prepared their "shock groups" to achieve the final objective. After reviewing many videos of that rally, Commander Borge concluded that "everything was part of a staged plan."

He said that in the videos he observed that the group of people armed with sticks, stones, knives, and even machetes were dressed alike: All of them had light colored shirts and dark pants. "It seemed as if they were uniformed so as to identify each other," Tomas Borge said, adding that "when most of the people dispersed, only that group which was prepared to do what it did continued participating."

The Police Are Going To Defend Themselves [subhead]

The interior minister recounted the disturbances that occurred in Masaya in February when a right-wing demonstration stoned and destroyed a Sandinist police station and burned several vehicles. On that occasion, the police did not violently intervene. "We could not permit a repetition of those incidents. In Nandaime, the police defended themselves so that they and the public order would be respected."

We can no longer continue to endure such situations, Borge insisted. He warned that "the police are going to respond with the necessary energy in the face of activities of this type. I state with all seriousness: We are not going to permit attacks on the police or the provocation of more public disorder. In the future, when demonstrations are held, we are not going to permit the participation of people who have sticks, machetes, or any other type of weapon."

The Full Weight of the Law [subhead]

What about legality today? Is it being maintained or are we seeing an indirect state of emergency?

"Legality is being maintained," Borge replied, "because legality does not mean illegality and anarchy but rather the enforcement of the laws. Nothing has been done here against the law. Everything has been done according to it. In fact, in the face of all that has been carried out and stated, there has been infinite patience." He reiterated that this does not mean that a state of emergency has been reestablished in Nicaragua.

In commenting on statements made by some political parties that claim the revolution is weak when it is face to face with an "aggressive opposition," Borge said the government is totally willing to accept an aggressive, loud-mouthed, enthusiastic, and passionate, or sad and nostalgic opposition. He added, however, that "violence, disregard for the law, and civil disobedience are entirely different things" and that the official position in this regard was "a matter of principle."

"What does the opposition want from the Nicaraguan people? Turn them against something they worked for? Do they think the revolution can be defeated with handkerchiefs [panuelazos]?" Borge added that respect for the law is essential regardless of the opposition's intentions.

Disregard for the Government Is Intolerable [subhead]

"We do not fear the toppling of the people's government by the opposition despite their resources. Despite their Meltons, Nolans, Abrams, and all their other weeds, they will not defeat the revolution.

"However, we cannot allow them to do as they please. Here in Nicaragua we respect our people and our laws. We cannot accept their disregard of a legitimate government that exists even though they do not like it."

Tomas Borge urged the political organizations "to once and for all accept the existence of a legitimate government; a government that must be respected even if they are against it and want it replaced."

Borge sarcastically remarked that the Nicaraguan right-wing organizations are trying to follow U.S. instructions to the letter because they believe the United States will be able to destroy the revolution. "The rightists believe they will be the kings, that the Yankees will resolve their problems, and that the Sandinists will all be dead men."

Improve the Media Law [subhead]

Commander Tomas Borge also commented on the Nicaraguans' right to freedom of information. He said the present media law needed to be modernized not only "to ensure freedom of expression but also to tackle shameful disinformation, pre-planned lies, and criminal slander. Likewise, our media cannot become an instrument for ideological terrorism or to benefit a foreign power." He said the opposition claims that there is a strong dictatorship in Nicaragua; however, the best proof that this is not true is the fact that certain media sources knowingly report the most incredible lies. "How can they report lies so calmly? Not even in the so-called democratic countries will politicians dare say the irresponsible and vicious things some gentlemen here in Nicaragua say."

Everything Depends on the Opposition... [subhead]

The interior minister reaffirmed that the government is presently "willing to continue making the necessary decisions to maintain the country's integrity and dignity." He called on all the political parties to act with maturity and good sense because "we are sure there are people in the opposition who are sufficiently intelligent to know that maintaining a position of civil disobedience and disregard for the law is extremely risky and dangerous."

"They should know that actions of this nature could lead us to an irreversible confrontation with unforseen consequences. We will do all that is needed to prevent this; however, the main responsibility is in the hands of the opposition," Borge added.

Interior Ministry on U.S. Envoys' Activities

PA2207010688 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Jul 88 p 4

[All dates as published]

[Text] The Interior Ministry has followed in detail the clandestine and public activities of the U.S. Embassy's team of officials in Managua under the leadership of Richard Melton. Here are some of the activities included in their plan:

Richard Melton (Ambassador) [subhead]

12 April 1988: Melton presented his credentials.

27 April: Melton met for 2 hours with Virgilio Godoy at the Independent Liberal Party headquarters in Managua, instructing him to work in favor of the opposition's unity to confront the government.

9 June: Melton met with Fernando (El Diablo) Zelaya Rojas from the Rappaccioli faction of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party. He suggested that Zelaya work toward the realization of a sitdown strike with the participation of doctors, nurses, and teachers. Those sectors were to be encouraged to hold work stoppages as an initial step toward a general strike and civil disobedience.

3 July: Melton participated, along with John Hope, in the FAGANIC-COSEP [Federation of Nicaraguan Cattlemen's Associations-Higher Council of Private Enterprise] assembly in Esteli. He made a political speech, calling for the formation of a "national salvation government," and he publicly reiterating the topics he had discussed with Godoy and Zelaya.

John Creamer (Third Secretary and Deputy Consul) [subhead]

30 August 1987: Creamer met with Enrique Sotelo Borgen, a deputy for the Democratic Conservative Party, to fine-tune details regarding the "installment" of the so-called 22 January Mothers Movement (M-22) by Janeth Crist.

22 October: Creamer again met with Sotelo and instructed him to guarantee the continuity of the M-22's activities at El Calvario Church and at the so-called Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights [CPDH], an organization financed by the U.S. Embassy. He instructed Sotelo to carry out acts of provocation through the M-22, making economic aid in dollars dependent on the successful completion of this line of action.

5 January 1988: Creamer met with Antonio Jarquin to receive information regarding the seizure of El Calvario Church. At this meeting, Jarquin informed Creamer that he was carrying out his instructions and he had attained the support of El Calvario's pastor, Msgr Osvaldo Mondragon.

8 January: Creamer urged Sotelo to continue the M-22's activities at El Calvario. On the same day, Creamer informed the movement's Board of Directors that he had reached an agreement with Msgr Mondragon whereby the demonstrators' would have free access to the Catholic church.

27 January: Creamer instructed Carlos Huembes to hold meetings in different areas of the country.

13 May: Creamer met with Sotelo and instructed him to form a "commission" to consoliate the 14 opposition parties as a "bloc" along with the 4 labor federations.

13 May: Creamer met at CPDH headquarters with Sotelo and Lino Hernandez (a member of the CPDH Board of Directors) to plan the M-22's acts of provocation.

15 May: Creamer traveled to Region 1 and visited the Constitutionalist Liberal Party (PLC) and COSEP departmental headquarters. He also met with Jaime Meza, a counterrevolutionary collaborator.

31 May: At a second meeting with Andres Zuniga, president of the Liberal Party of Nicaragua, Creamer reported "serious reservations" about the leaders of the Socialist Party (PSN) and Communist Party (PCdN), and instructed him not to involve them too seriously in the bloc because they claimed to be communists.

June: Creamer instructed Concepcion Salazar, member of the M-22 Board of Directors, to have the group struggle more actively against the military service and to visit various jails to attract the attention of Somozist prisoners' mothers and promote hunger strikes among the prisoners.

David Nolan (Second Secretary) [subhead]

13 October 1987: Nolan met with Antonio Jarquin, member of the Central Organization of Nicaraguan Workers [CTN] Board of Directors, and recommended the unification of all the opposition labor federations to jointly confront the government.

Nolan instructed Jarquin to struggle for new labor legislation and for the elimination of the National Labor and Wages Organization System through demonstrations and strikes. (On 31 October, the opposition labor federations held their first joint demonstration; on 6 December, they held a coordinated labor meeting at which they announced the creation of the so-called CPT (Permanent Workers' Congress).)

September: Nolan met with Carlos Huembes, CTN secretary and Coordinating Board president, and requested a list of all the unions within the federation. This provided him with the number and identity of members and departmental directorates.

October: Nolan again met with Huembes. Together they established the number of CTN activists who would participate in an activity with Mrs Jeanne Kirkpatrick at the so-called "Big House."

December 29: Nolan again met with Antonio Jarquin. He reiterated and established guidance on the economic strategy that should be followed with the CTN laborers.

June 1988: Nolan met with COSEP Vice President Gilberto Cuadra and asked him to guarantee COSEP President Enrique Bolanos' participation on 15 July in Costa Rica at a meeting with Max Copperman, a State Department official, who on that day also met with the counterrevolutionary leaders.

Hugh Simon (First Secretary) [subhead]

14 January 1988: Simon had lunch with Virgilio Godoy, explained that Godoy was an important figure who could unite the center-democratic opposition bloc, and suggested that he do this.

23 May: Simon traveled to Puerto Cabezas and collected information from religious personalilties and members of the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] regarding the procedures of laying down arms and repatriation, as well as the support of organizations opposed to the Nicaraguan Government.

John Hope (First Secretary) [subhead]

Hope held several meetings on different dates with Ramiro Gurdian and Enrique Bolanos, members of the COSEP Board of Directors. He instructed them to consolidate the Nicaraguan Institute for Economic and Social Investigations for Private Enterprise (INIESEP). He suggested that they both become official members of the institute to establish its assets and resources and to ensure the embassy's economic aid as a private enterprise organization.

3 July: Hope participated with Melton in the FAGANIC event in Esteli, where the U.S. ambassador revealed his plan.

Government Requests U.S. Visa for Tunnermann

PA2107145788 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Directorate announced that this afternoon an official request for a C-1 visa [transit visa] was filed at the U.S. Embassy for Ambassador Carlos Tunnermann, Nicaragua's permanent ambassador to the OAS, to enable him to travel to Washington to fulfill his duties. The visa request is urgent because Tunnermann must attend a series of meetings and fulfill various duties.

He is also a member of the jury that will select the winner of the 1988 Andres Bello Inter-American Education Award in Washington, D.C., between 27 and 29 July.

Radio, Newscast Directors Appeal Closure

PA2107151088 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2042 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Managua, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Today the media reported that the directors of Radio Catolica and the "El Despertar" newscast have filed appeals against the Nicaraguan Government's resolutions closing both media for an indefinite period.

Radio Catolica was closed down on 11 July by the Interior Ministry's Media Office for releasing information on the Nandaime disturbances that was not officially confirmed.

The closure led Radio Catolica Director Msgr Bismarck Carballo to request an explanation from the Media Office as to how long the station would be closed.

After receiving no response to his request from administrative authorities, Msgr Carballo decided to file an appeal demanding that the order be revoked.

In his appeal, Freddy Rostran, news director of Radio Noticias' "El Despertar" newscast, claimed that the resolution neither provides reasons for the closure nor explains the basis for the authorities' decision.

Rostran said that the resolution ordering the newscast's suspension as of 15 July is "petty, unfair, and foolish; it limits the expression of many political parties, unions, social organizations, and citizens."

The directors of the closed media hope to receive a response to their administrative appeal within the next 3 days.

Ministry Says 6 Contras Surrender; 5 Killed

PA2107170088 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Jul 88 p 4

[Text] The Defense Ministry reported that six counterrevolutionaries, tired of the war, decided to give themselves up, while five contras loyal to Colonel Enrique Bermudez were killed in an attack on EPS positions.

The Defense Ministry report says that in the past few days, mercenaries loyal to Bermudez kidnapped 10 people in various parts of the country, committed robberies, and set fire to freight and passenger vehicles.

On 15 and 16 July, EPS troops were attacked at Cano Gârcia, 22 km northwest of Muelle de los Bueyes, in the autonomous south Atlantic region, where a mercenary was killed and four others were injured.

At El Cascajal in the same region, 12 km southwest of El Almendro, four mercenaries were killed and the EPS seized their weapons: an M-79 grenade launcher, three AK rifles, one M-24 rifle, and a conversion table [tabla de conversion].

On 15 July, in Nueva Segovia, northwest of the Coco River, the mercenaries kidnapped Basilio Carazo Pastrana, 25, and two peasants east of Plan de Grama in Jinotega Department.

One vehicle was burned and three civilians kidnapped as the result of an ambush northwest of Abisinia, Jinotega Department.

On 16 July, the contras kidnapped peasants Inocencia and Raymundo Reyes in El Congo, 17 km northwest of Matiguas. On the same day, they kidnapped two children in Veracruz, 6 km east of San Sebastian de Yali in Jinotega Department. The kidnapped children were identified as Jose Anibal Zeledon, 12, and Juan Mendez Guido, 15.

The report adds that on 15 July, counterrevolutionary Ivan Gonzalez surrendered in San Pedro de Lovago, Chontales Department.

On 16 July, in San Gregorio, 4 km southwest of Murra, Nueva Segovia, three contras turned themselves in. On the same day, two contras decided to lay down their weapons in Las Delicias, northwest of Quilali, in Nueva Segovia, bringing to six the number of contras who have laid down their weapons over the past few days.

Cambodian Leader Ends Official 4-Day Visit

PA2107210988 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Today President Daniel Ortega Saavedra bade farewell to his Cambodian counterpart Heng Samrin at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport.

Prior to Heng Samrin's departure, the PRK and Nicaraguan leaders issued a joint communique in which they reaffirmed their desire to continue expanding the friendly ties between the two countries and to develop Nicaraguan-Cambodian cooperation and collaboration.

President Ortega Saavedra decorated Cambodian State Council President Heng Samrin—who concluded a 4-day official visit to Nicaragua—with the Augusto C. Sandino Order, the Nicaraguan Government's highest award. President Heng Samrin was the special guest at the main ceremony to commemorate the 9th anniversary of the Sandinist revolution, which was held in Juigalpa.

Briefs

Bulgarian Aid Donation

Yesterday the people and government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria reaffirmed their solidarity with the Nicaraguan people with a donation of 5,000 tons of wheat, fabric, and medicine. Bulgaria has donated more than $40 million in aid to Nicaragua. In receiving the donation, Jose Angel Buitrago, Nicaraguan vice foreign cooperation minister, announced that 100 Bulgarian-made buses will be used throughout the country within 6 months. [Excerpts] [*PA2107211188 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 88*]

Panama

Official on Report of Attacks at U.S. Base

PA2207010588 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] New armed clashes have been reported between intruders and U.S. troops at Howard Air Force Base. [passage omitted]

Although the Panamanian Foreign Ministry declined to comment on the incident, Nils Castro, National Information System general coordinator, said this is another show to which Panamanians are already accustomed.

[Begin Castro recording] Once again, there is talk of intruders. It would be advisable to remember that the Panama Canal Treaties do not recognize the existence of the U.S. Southern Command. The treaties only authorize U.S. troops to defend and protect the Panama Canal. They must carry out this mission in coordination with the Panama Defense Forces. Therefore, I would say that the only intruders whose presence has been proven are the members of the U.S. Southern Command. [end recording]

Deputies, Businessmen on Electoral Code Bill

PA2107231388 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] Today a tentative work plan that will serve as the basis for the analysis of the bill to amend the Electoral Code was approved by members of the Legislative Assembly's Government and Justice Commission, which formally began its work sessions. Opposition and government leaders agreed on the need for broad discussions with all sectors of society involved in the future elections. [passage omitted]

According to Guillermo Jimenez, president of the Legislative Assembly's Government and Justice Commission, the bill to amend the Electoral Code is subject to review and modification, based on a broad survey of public opinion.

[Jimenez] "The Electoral Commission submitted a set of proposals. The cabinet and the executive branch studied the proposals and may amend them. Here, in the Legislative Assembly's Government and Justice Commission, changes will probably have to be made—perhaps even during the plenary sessions. These procedures are contemplated under the Constitution. Regardless of whether the amendments are fair or not, we are required to examine them."

Business sectors point out that until the government shows its willingness to make genuine changes, the elections will not solve the country's current crisis. On this topic, businessman Roberto Henriquez stated:

[Henriquez] "Sufficient guarantees must be given so the opposition may participate in the elections and consider them valid and important. If there is no assurance that the honest results of the elections will be respected, there is no point in even participating in them."

These thoughts are shared by PALA [Labor Party] Legislator Arturo Vallarino, who pointed out that the proposed amendments are of no consequence and do not introduce any fundamental changes that would strengthen democracy in Panama.

[Vallarino] "Furthermore, the Electoral Tribunal is currently mutilated, since it has only two of the three serving judges. All of these things, I believe, are going to be the subject of discussion. Also, economic topics will be discussed, since millions of dollars are needed to hold the elections."

Jose Raul Molino, first vice president of the Panamanian Association of Business Executives, stated that the proposed amendments are paving the way for a new electoral fraud.

[Molino] "Panama needs profound changes in matters concerning the administration of justice, civil liberties, and the reopening of the closed media. Until those profound changes occur, I feel the elections are not going to solve any crisis; rather, they do the opposite: They will exacerbate the crisis and heighten the level of distrust that already exists toward the people who ran the 1984 elections—who, everything seems to indicate, will run the 1989 elections." [passage omitted]

Argentina

Brodersohn, Machinea on Debt, Loan Talks

PY2107214288 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2035 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jul (NA)—Today primary Argentine foreign debt negotiators Mario Brodersohn and Jose Luis Machinea expressed optimism that the government would curb inflation and reach a final agreement with the IMF "in a matter of days."

The finance secretary and the Central Bank president made this statement today upon their arrival in Buenos Aires from Washington, where they spent a week negotiating with international creditor organizations and the U.S. Government.

Brodersohn said "We have made progress in our negotiations with the World Bank and the IMF; we are in the final stage of negotiations in reaching a new agreement to tide us over until December 1989."

He added that "financial programs for this and next year" were discussed with the World Bank and that "important" progress has been made.

Brodersohn said that during the meetings held with U.S. Federal Reserve authorities, they discussed "an economic program which has already been implemented by the government." He denied that this organization is planning to grant Argentina a bridge loan.

The finance secretary reasserted that the government's plan is designed to obtain a "substantial reduction of the fiscal deficit and to stop public expenditure," which will "make it possible to curb the inflationary process." He admitted that he discussed these subjects with the IMF and the World Bank.

Machinea, in turn, termed the results of the negotiations carried out as positive. He said: "In a matter of days we will have concluded these negotiations with the IMF."

The Central Bank president explained that "it is hard to maintain any economic situation when there is uncertainty;" therefore, he said that he thinks "the agreement with foreign creditors which will grant financial aid for 1988 and 1989 will be very important in that regard."

Machinea said that among the measures implemented by the government to curb inflation, some of a fiscal nature, "are beginning to yield results."

He asserted that "measures in the monetary field have also been implemented. One of them is a discount program that entails a substantial reduction of Central Bank discounts in relation to previous years. From the monetary and fiscal point of view we are better off than we were 2 or 3 months ago."

Machinea estimated that financial needs for this year amount to some $2.3 billion and predicted that "a (?similar) amount" will be necessary for 1989.

He disclosed that the stand-by loan being negotiated with the IMF will amount to approximately $1.3 billion.

Brodersohn said that one of the main issues the Argentine negotiators must take into account is the fact that Argentina is not able to honor all the interest coming due. He added that "so far we have managed to pay half the interest and consider the remaining portion as a future debt. I do not see why we should change this strategy."

Regarding the World Bank, he said that "it displayed a positive attitude and support for Argentina," while he said with the IMF "negotiations are not easy."

New Agreement Announced

PY2107191488 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINA in Spanish 1857 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jul (NA)—Today officials of the Economy Ministry announced that later this month Argentina will sign a new agreement with the IMF to get a loan of approximately $1.3 billion.

However, the new agreement will not be enough to finance the fiscal deficit of the current year, which has been calculated at about $2.3 billion by the economic team.

Finance Secretary Mario Brodersohn and Central Bank President Jose Luis Machinea made this announcement upon arriving from the United States at Ezeiza International Airport.

The two officials said that the negotiations held with the IMF and the World Bank were "positive." They also confirmed that new 1,000-austral bills will go into circulation in the last quarter of this year.

Finance Officials on Exchange Rates, Prices

PY2107235888 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2055 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Today the Argentine Government again denied rumors about the imminent unification and freedom of the exchange rate market, which prompted a drop in the dollar exchange rate at the beginning of the week.

Today Finance Secretary Mario Brodersohn said that "it is not necessary to move in that direction," thus ruling out the possibility of unifying the exchange rates.

"Right now, when Argentina is in need of financing more than $2 billion, we cannot allow the dollar exchange rate to fluctuate," Brodersohn explained in a reply to questions posed to him upon his arrival at Ezeiza airport from the United States.

In turn, Daniel Marx, Central Bank director, in a statement to a radio station, dismissed rumors about the liberation and unification of exchange rates, because, in his opinion, "the dollar exchange market is operating satisfactorily."

When he was told that the hike of public utility rates put the population "in a bad mood," Marx said that it is true public utility rates have increased, but the consumption of gas oil and electricity "are subsidized."

Asked whether an alleged request from the IMF to raise public utility rates was analyzed at a recent meeting between President Alfonsin and members of the economic team, Marx replied that "it is not up to the IMF to say when the public utility rates need to be raised."

In his statement to Radio Continental, Marx added that "one must simply see if public enterprises can generate their own revenues to meet costs and carry on their production and investment plans, as well as pursue other objectives.

"[Words indistinct] is a relevant subject, but it is much more relevant here because public enterprises have to be financed."

Asked about the insistent rumors of an eventual unification of the foreign exchange markets, Marx pointed out that "there are a lot of rumors in that regard, but what the economic team, at least the Central Bank, is analyzing refers to the way the market is operating now, and it seems that it is working satisfactorily."

As for the possibility of implementing a new price freeze, Marx said that "the economic team's explicit objective is to try and drastically reduce the inflation rate and, to that effect, find a policy to reduce the indexation that feeds inflation." He added: "I do not know the concrete mechanism to do this, but I do know what the objective is."

Regarding the possibility of a price freeze being reinstituted, just a few months after prices were deregulated, Marx said that "I don't think that will happen, but I do not know."

Referring to negotiations with the IMF to obtain a new stand-by loan, Marx said that Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille was "correct, although terse," when he said that "progress" has been made in the negotiations. He then added: "No negotiations can be concluded in 24 hours. Progress is made stage by stage, and this is what we are doing."

When asked about the rumor that the United States had offered a bridge loan to Argentina, Marx said "No, we have not talked about that at this time; we have simply talked about relations between our government and the IMF for the next 18 months."

Marx was then asked about the possibility that this month's interest rate might be lower than the inflation rate. He replied: "We do not know yet what the inflation rate will be." And he affirmed that "from the standpoint of seasonality, July is a complicated month, because there are moments of either too much liquidity or too much illiquidity." He continued: "July is not over yet, but whether the interest rate will be more or less than the inflation rate can only be said at the end. As for investment opportunities, the interest rate seems quite remunerative." Marx denied that difficulties exist in extending long-term loans for that reason.

Asked as to whether the IMF has retaliated for the lack of compliance with the budgetary targets, Marx recalled that threats of retaliation were heard last year, but "this is not the situation now, simply because we have just begun to talk about the future, not revising the past."

Deputies Score Countries for Rights Violations

PY2107134288 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0118 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 20 Jul (DYN)—Today the Argentine Chamber of Deputies approved resolutions censuring the regimes of Chile, Paraguay, and the RSA for their repeated violations of human rights. [passage omitted]

The resolutions, which were approved by the Chamber of Deputies with the support of the Justicialists, Radicals, Christian Democrats, Intransigents, and the Democratic Centrist Union, demand the freedom of South African black leader Nelson Mandela and repudiate the death sentences given to three Chilean citizens by General Augusto Pinochet's regime and the Paraguayan Government's refusal to return three children who were kidnapped from Argentina and taken to Paraguay.

Nicaragua's Cabezas: We 'Beg for Solidarity'

PY2107184488 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1518 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Cordoba, 21 Jul (TELAM)—Nicaraguan Sandinist Commander Omar Cabezas has said that his country has a pressing need for solidarity with the Latin American people because of its horrible economic crisis.

Cabezas, who attended a demonstration of support for his country sponsored by the light and power union in this city, praised the role that the Argentine Government has played in the peace-seeking efforts of the Contadora Group and its Support Group. In his statement, published by LA VOZ DEL INTERIOR, Cabezas said that Nicaraguans also need the Argentine people's support. We came to beg for solidarity, he stressed.

Concerning the confrontation between his country and the United States, he explained that the Nicaraguan tactic is to force the United States to have common sense, stressing that the United States should agree to direct talks with the Sandinist government because they should be made to understand that both sides can coexist in peace even if they have different ideas.

Concerning the U.S. aid to the "contras," Cabezas said that after all the modern weapons and uniforms that the they have received, the United States can give them nothing else to defeat Nicaragua, because the North Americans cannot produce men.

Radioactivity Detected Near Tierra del Fuego
PY2007191088 Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 20 Jul 88 p 49

[From the Radar page]

[Text] About one year ago, by chance, the Brazilian Government discovered one of the best guarded secrets in Argentina. As the Brazilian antarctic ship "Barao de Teffe" was returning from Antarctica, the scientists on board noted that the ship's sensors were triggered by a radiation source near Tierra del Fuego, in the southern tip of the continent. Since Argentina does not have a nuclear facility in that region, the Brazilian scientists concluded that the radiation was coming from a large atomic waste dump. From the latitude that the "Barao de Teffe" was navigating from at the time, the scientists deduced that the atomic waste dump is located on the high seas.

CNEA President Comments on Nuclear Waste
PY2107215488 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 21 Jul 88 p 10

[By Eleonora Gosman]

[Excerpt] Argentina will not build a nuclear dump until at least early in the next century. CNEA is currently undertaking a feasibility study to determine whether a suitable site for a future radioactive waste dump can be found in Gaster, a small town of 300 inhabitants in Chubut Province.

This was confirmed yesterday by CNEA President Emma Perez Ferreira. She also explained that "there is no hurry to build a nuclear waste dump, because it may be needed only by the year 2010." Until then, the fuel elements "burned" at the Atucha 1 and Embalse nuclear plants can be disposed without problems in sinks that serve as containers on the plant premises. They can also be "dry" stored—one of the alternatives currently being studied.

Perez Ferreira said that a dump will only make sense when the country begins "to reprocess" fuel elements on a large scale. These "burned" fuel elements can be reprocessed to reclaim plutonium, an element considered to be a strategic energy reserve, which, in a couple of decades, might be used as fuel in fast breeding reactors.

For some 8 years, a group of scientists have been looking into the possibility of using the Sierra del Medio rock outcropping, about 12 km from Gaster, as a disposal site for highly radioactive waste. According to these scientists, a dump site is necessary in order to isolate the radioactive waste from the biosphere for a time sufficiently long enough to reduce the level of radioactivity. The characteristics of Sierra del Medio outcropping are thought to offer optimum safety conditions for the disposal of nuclear waste for some 100 years. After that period of time, the radionuclides will begin to escape into the atmosphere, but the radiation to which the population will be exposed will be equivalent to half a day of sunshine. [passage omitted]

Police Uncover Landing Strip; Confiscate Planes
PY2107211188 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Jul 88 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN)—The federal police arrested three civilian pilots and confiscated two small aircrafts in Tucuman yesterday after discovering another landing strip allegedly used by cocaine traffickers, meanwhile a number of operations in Mar del Plata resulted in the confiscation of sophisticated weapons and valuable documents related to the recently disbanded international drug trafficking ring.

Tucuman police sources said that the two confiscated planes, which reportedly belong to a local flying club, could have operated in the clandestine airport found in Santiago del Estero last week.

The same sources said that another runway had been spotted in Hocomolle, a city some 10 km west of Tucuman City, which is presumed to have been the drug's first port of entry into the country from Bolivia, and from where it was allegedly flown to Santiago del Estero.

This hypothesis contradicts last week's police speculation, which estimated that the 556 kilos of cocaine confiscated in Avellaneda and the Federal Capital had been flown directly to the Santiago airport from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, near the Bolivian border.

The sources said the police were searching for other possible clandestine landing sites in Santiago del Estero.

The source also added that the three detained Tucuman pilots were transferred to the Federal Capital to testify before Judge Julio Virgolini "as soon as possible."

Federal Judge Jorge Ferro also directed operations at Camet Airport near Mar del Plata in an attempt to confiscate an airplane belonging to an important local businessman. Nevertheless, sources said the plane was not found and suggested that it could be one of the two which were seized in Tucuman. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Alleged Drug Trafficker Suarez Arrested
PY2107173688 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1645 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] We now have an official report. Yesterday Roberto Suarez Gomez was arrested at his ranch in Beni Department by antidrug police personnel who raided his

ranch facilities. Roberto Suarez Gomez is being held in La Paz. This afternoon a press conference will be held at the Interior Ministry to provide the details of this action. [passage omitted]

Ministers on Arrest

PY2107224488 Santa Cruz Radio El Mundo in Spanish 2100 GMT 21 Jul 88 (tentative)

[Report on news conference held by Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran and Information Minister Herman Antelo at Government House in La Paz on 21 July]

[Text] A few minutes ago, Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran and Information Minister Herman Antelo confirmed here in Government House that Roberto Suarez Gomez was arrested in Beni region near (San Joaquin and Puerto Siles).

The ministers also confirmed that [words indistinct] in the arrest of this criminal, accused of drug trafficking. Suarez has a 15-year prison sentence (?pending). He was found with (?57) large-caliber weapons.

The two ministers held the news conference (after reporting) the details of the arrest to President Victor Paz Estenssoro. The arrest took place yesterday.

The two ministers said that the man arrested was indeed Roberto Suarez Gomez, who was being sought by the police to respond to charges against him. Here is the information minister on this subject:

[Begin recording] [Antelo] The operation that concluded with the arrest of Suarez was not carried out by chance. Rather, it was the result of a government plan against drug trafficking.

Roberto Suarez has been followed for a long time. An unsuccessful operation was carried out a month ago at his Quemalia ranch. He escaped because he heard the helicopters.

This time we planned a much more silent operation with the aid of a police patrol that departed from the Quemalia ranch and headed to the El Sujo ranch 35 km away, where Suarez was arrested at dawn [words indistinct]. Two of his bodyguards, who were also caught by surprise, were arrested at 0600 yesterday.

Weapons were also found in the ranch. Investigations are under way in order to prepare a full report.

Roberto Suarez was taken to [name indistinct] at 1000 today and from there he was taken to La Paz where he remains in custody in a narcotics unit jail.

As soon as we think it is convenient and safe, Roberto Suarez—who is old and has a [words indistinct] history and has undergone a medical examination—will be presented to the media.

[Reporter] Minister, you said that he will be placed at the disposal of the court soon.

[Antelo] Suarez Gomez has a sentence pending; he must complete it. The method will be defined by the (?La Paz) law.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Antelo] Suarez has already been (?tried) and sentenced; therefore he must serve his sentence. [passage indistinct] Therefore, he is under the jurisdiction of our law, and that is how we will keep it.

[Reporer] [Question indistinct]

[Antelo] Well, the recommendations of the prosecutor and civil court must be evaluated [words indistinct] in the (?Quemaglia) ranch from where he first fled and where yesterday's operation began.

[Reporter] Minister, has Roberto Suarez' ranch been (?confiscated)?

[Antelo] Look, I do not know the specifics in this case, but it will be reported later.

[Reporter] Was he arrested by UMOPAR, Interior Ministry members, or by military troops?

[Antelo] He was arrested by the police. This was done by the police who carried out the intelligence operation and the actual raid.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Antelo] No, not at all.

[Reporter] How long had this operation been planned?

[Antelo] Apart from the investigations and the daily raids that were being carried out, the operation began at least 2 or 3 months ago.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Antelo] His relatives have all the rights any free citizen has in this country. However, if they have something pending with the law, they will have to be tried; otherwise, they will be treated according to the law. [end recording]

That was the news conference held this afternoon by the information and interior ministers regarding the arrest of Roberto Suarez Gomez, who has a 15-year sentence pending.

Legislator Reports on Cocaine Shipments Abroad

PY2107124388 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0154 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] La Paz, 20 Jul (EFE)—According to Alvaro Perez del Castillo, president of the Bolivian Congress Constitutional Committee, some 400 kg of cocaine per day leaves Bolivia bound for foreign consumer centers.

The congressman said that the members of his committee recently travelled to Santa Cruz, 900 km from La Paz, where they saw clear evidence that 2 tons of cocaine leave this capital en route to foreign consumer centers every 5 days.

The deputy said that the magnitude of the illicit traffic is "alarming." Perez also said that the number of addicts in Santa Cruz have increased and this "creates concern about the youth living in the eastern Bolivian regions."

Perez del Castillo said his committee will submit its conclusions to Congress, which will adopt the appropriate measures to confront the problem.

The deputy added that the magnitude of the problem proves that government efforts to control drug trafficking have not succeeded as expected.

Alvaro Perez concluded by saying that Bolivia needs more international cooperation to fight trafficking and called on "friendly countries" to contribute with resources to better control the illicit trade.

Red Cross Leader Comments on Youth Drug Use

PY2107221588 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Approximately 3,200 youths between the ages of 10 and 25 are regular drug users in La Paz. Dr Franklin Alcaraz, chief of the Bolivian Red Cross Youth Department and delegate to the National Council for the Prevention of Drug Consumption [Consejo Nacional de Prevencion contra el Uso de Drogas], CONAPRE, told Panamericana that these figures were obtained in studies carried out in La Paz. The studies also showed that marijuana is the most consumed drug, followed by cocaine.

[Begin Alcaraz recording] We have discovered that the upper class is the main consumer of expensive drugs such as marijuana and cocaine, and legal drugs which become illegal when they are not properly used, as in the case of amphetamines, sedatives, and tranquilizers. We have also discovered that the lower classes consume almost as many drugs as do the higher class. The only thing that differs is drug quality. The lower classes use what we call cheap drugs such the (?donner) and other inhalants: gasoline and others. We also discovered that the middle class consumes the least amount of drugs. [end recording]

Dr Alcaraz then discussed what the implementation of the Coca and Controlled Substances Law will be for Bolivia especially as far as prevention is concerned. He said that the articles related to prevention are not very complete. He believes that matters concerning the national plan for the prevention of drug consumption should have been included.

However, Alcaraz said that this law has filled serious legal loopholes. He added that the law's implementation would lead the way for the approval of additional laws for the prevention of drug abuse.

Case of Contraband PRC Weapons Concluded

PY2107210188 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] According to information from Customs General Directorate sources, the legal proceedings in the case of PRC weapons has concluded in Santa Cruz. It has been established that the arms were being smuggled into the country.

It has therefore been decided that the weapons will be placed at the disposal of the National Defense Ministry in compliance with Article No 34 of the law regulating contraband.

Moreover, the Del Oriente Co., the Cono Sur customs clearance office, and the enterprise in charge of controlling foreign trade have been duly sanctioned. [passage omitted]

Brazil

Army Responds to U.S. Company's Criticism

PY2207023088 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The Brazilian Army is justifying its decision regarding the awarding of a bid for the purchase of helicopters because the decision is being questioned by the company that lost the bid, the U.S. Bell company.

After the Bell company announced that it would go to court because it was not satisfied with the results of the international bidding for the Brazilian purchase of 52 helicopters, the Brazilian Army issued a response stating that it has confidence in Brazilian justice because it acted responsibly.

The international bid was awarded to the French Aerospatiale company and a $240-million contract has already been signed with the Brazilian Army.

Today the Army Press Secretariat disclosed that the financing of the 52 helicopters will be on a long-term basis with a 2-year grace period. The contract carries a clause which states that France will buy Tucano planes from Brazil for the same value of the imported helicopters.

The Bell company maintains that its bid was much lower than the bid submitted by the French and has promised to go to court to cancel those contracts already signed.

The Brazilian Army stated that it acted responsibly by calling for an international bid although it had the legal right not to do so.

Costa Rica's Madrigal on Talks, Nicaragua

PY2107161588 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Jul 88 p 20

[Text] Brasilia—Yesterday Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto again criticized the Nicaraguan Sandinist government, whose "verbal terrorism," he said, does not contribute to "the peace negotiations." He also criticized the Sandinists' decision to close the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA. "A government that feels it has the right to decide what can and cannot be published offers no freedoms," he said.

During the last day of his visit to Brasilia, the minister said that talks aimed at achieving understanding in Central America have become more difficult now due to electoral campaigns in the United States and in several Central American countries. "In Costa Rica we are trying to find peaceful solutions to the crisis," he said. He added that it is impossible to negotiate in such a "tense atmosphere" such as that of Nicaragua.

According to Madrigal Nieto, the Sandinist government has been adopting a harder line, while the contras are divided between ideological and personal interests. He recalled that the Central American countries advanced toward an agreement in 1987 when the Esquipulas accord, which foresees measures for "peace and stability" in Central America, was signed in Guatemala.

During the last meeting between Madrigal Nieto and Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre, the importance of increasing Brazilian investment in Costa Rica was pointed out. If trade relations between the two countries are intensified, Brazil will not have to pay the usual Costa Rican import taxes, and Costa Rica will have a way of balancing its trade figures. Last year, Brazil exported $27 million to Costa Rica. Most of the exports were manufactured goods. In the same period, Brazil imported only $376,000. It is in Brazil's interest to increase its investments in Costa Rica because of the strategic location of Costa Rica—near the U.S. west coast and the European market [as published]—and because of the exemption from tariffs that may transform Costa Rica into a commercial entrepot.

The two ministers also discussed the implementation of a pioneer project for Brazilian technical cooperation with Costa Rica. The project covers various areas, ranging from techniques for the use of energy sources to housing projects and cultural exchanges.

Regarding increased cooperation between the two countries, Madrigal Nieto said Brazil will not pay any taxes to Costa Rica. He added that exchanges and consultations between the two countries will increase: "The meetings have been very fruitful."

Today Madrigal Nieto will travel to Rio, where he will hold meetings with Governor Moreira Franco and Mayor Saturnino Braga. At 2115 he will leave for Lima, Peru.

Foreign Minister Condemns South AfricaM

PY2107024688 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Jul 88 p 6

[Text] Brasilia—Yesterday Brazilian Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre said that the occupation of Namibia by the South African Government represents "one of the most depressing chapters in the history of our times." He added that the occupation is "a revolting performance by a state which, disregarding the principles of justice, deliberately decides to become an outlaw." Abreu Sodre made these remarks at a luncheon welcoming Chinmaya Garekan, who is here to request the Brazilians' Government support for the Namibian cause.

Sodre stressed that the regime established in that country is "inadmissible" for Brazil, emphasizing the importance of the United Nations' efforts and that Brazil is watching "with interest" the Namibian people's struggle for their independence. He said: "The feeling of revolt awakened in us by the occupation of Namibia is intensified by the iniquitous nature of the apartheid regime." Sodre also said that the Brazilian Government has been cooperating with the organization of the southeastern African people, especially in the formation of technical groups, in addition to contributing to the UN funds for Namibia.

Yesterday, Zimbabwean ambassador to the OAU, T.J.B. Jokonya, asked Sodre for Brazilian aid for the almost 2.5 million refugees in southern Africa due to the conflicts in South Africa.

Delegation in Italy Seeks To Increase Trade

PY2207005788 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Today in Rome Italian Foreign Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero began talks with the members of a Brazilian delegation headed by Itamaraty Secretary General Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima. They agreed that Italian-Brazilian trade relations are at a level lower than relations with most European countries.

Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega also arrived in Rome where he will hold a number of meetings seeking support for rescheduling the Brazilian foreign debt.

Chile

Pinochet Speaks on Plebiscite, Violence

PY2107034488 Santiago Television National de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] President Pinochet has stated that the government will guarantee that the plebiscite will be held in a clean and open manner. [passage omitted]

After thanking the people for their expressions of support, Pinochet recalled the crisis the country experienced in the previous regime and the abuses committed by the Popular Unity. Today, he said, some politicians want to start from scratch and forget the past when the nation was about to be given up to Marxism and become a Russian colony. This is why we took the government, he said, because we were born in democracy, and we want to continue living in a true and protected democracy, and not in one infiltrated by politicians who have neither principles nor morals.

Later, referring to the plebiscite, he said we are already on its doorsteps, and we must support the government's achievements.

[Begin Pinochet recording] In this plebiscite we must say: Yes, we want to continue with the current regime of liberty, a regime which has been well administered in all sectors. This regime has achieved good national progress. According to statistics, we have achieved an unprecedented level of development. [end recording]

President Pinochet then discussed the progress achieved by the government in all national sectors, especially stressing the housing projects implemented in favor of the needy. All these achievements are disregarded by politicians who only speak about human rights, overlooking the fact that these achievements favor both sides, not only the opposition sector. This is easy to understand, he said, because the international organizations are infiltrated by Marxists. They murder carabineros and soldiers and no one says anything, Pinochet stated.

He also condemned those who travel abroad seeking money to finance campaigns against Chile. He said that this year, the opposition has received $28 million for its antigovernment campaign. [passage omitted]

In the political sector, referring to the plebiscite, Pinochet stated:

[Begin Pinochet recording] Chile is a free country, and it will continue as such, free. [applause] Regardless of what some gentlemen may say, we will continue working for the greatness of the fatherland.

From this podium, before you today, I want to invite those foreigners who want to learn about our situation to come. And when they visit this free country, this country with order and progress, we hope they will tell the truth, and not leave the country and tell lies abroad. [applause]

I also want to tell these foreigners that those who do not know anything about the Chilean institutional process can distort the people's real desires through misinformation and lies.

We have our heads held high because the government will guarantee a free, secret, clean, and formal plebiscite. You can add any adjective you want. To think otherwise will be insulting to the Armed Forces and the forces of order. These forces have never committed perjury. [applause] [end recording]

Socialists' Nunez on 'Transition to Democracy'

PM2107113488 Rome AVANTI! in Italian 19 Jul 88 p 13

[Interview with Socialist Party Secretary Ricardo Nunez by Roberto Villetti in Santiago—date not given]

[Excerpt] Santiago—[Passage omitted] [Villetti] What role can the United States play in your transition process?

[Nunez] With a positive change in its government, which we all hope for, that is, with a victory by Dukakis, the United States can play a positive role for political change in Chile. Ricardo Lagos is in the United States at the moment and has observed the great interest in the Socialists' role in this process on the part of the American authorities and also the State Department.

We formed a positive assessment of President Reagan's statement last December about the necessary guarantees of a clear and open plebiscite. However, those guarantees, which have also been demanded by the Chilean Episcopal Conference, have not been met by the dictatorship even now, just 3 months away from the plebiscite.

With regard to the transition, I would also like to say that it will be a difficult process; it will not be straightforward and there will be many complex variables to consider. The problems can be tackled and resolved if we succeed in creating a climate of calm and order in the country and if the Armed Forces understand—even though Pinochet certainly cannot—that their role is not to suppress the people, but to return to the institutional duty that they have traditionally performed in our country, namely, to guarantee our sovereignty.

Furthermore, if the social forces such as the entrepreneurs and Chilean working class manage to reach an understanding through consultations to establish the terms of a rapid transition to democracy, I believe it can be stated with certainty that the timetable set by the 1980 Constitution—an illegal constitution—will not be observed and that the Chilean people will be able to elect a bilateral

[as published] parliament and president for a 4- year term well before the prescribed dates. For we Socialists it is essential that this parliament have constitutional powers, that is, that it be able to carry out all the necessary legal and institutional changes to ensure a real democracy.

In this transition process it is necessary and very important for us to be able to ensure Chile's governability. Irrespective of our participation in a future democratic government, the Socialists have a political and moral commitment to our people—to make the future democracy governable. This future democracy must be stable and progressive and must provide solutions principally to the sectors that have been hit hard over the years, such as the Chilean workers. All of Chile's progressive forces realize that the future democracy's stability is based on the restoration of a social balance.

[Villetti] Who do you think will be able to guarantee this governability? Can it be guaranteed by the center, the center-left, or a left-wing coalition of the People's Unity type?

[Nunez] There can be no left-wing, center, or right-wing solution in Chile. The solution must be a national one. In Chile, it is impossible to imagine that the left alone could resolve the problems which we would inherit. Moreover, the center alone would not be able to do so, still less the right, which was linked with the dictatorship, although there are elements in the right which show characteristics which we value. All attempts at rebuilding democracy show the importance of the right bound by democratic values. This is why any solution which is not a national solution is unthinkable. It is necessary for the center, right-wing, and left-wing forces to agree so that the future democratic government has the support of the majority of the country.

[Villetti] What about the Communists?

[Nunez] I do not think that it is possible to include the PCCh in this agreement, not only because of the deep anticommunism, encouraged by the regime over the past 15 years, which has spread throughout the country, but also because in the past 8 years, the PCCh has put forward a completely inappropriate policy. This is not the same kind of situation as the one which existed in post-fascist Italy, where, thanks to an agreement among the political forces led by De Gasperi, Nenni, and Togliatti, there was a general unity government. The winds of restructuring have not yet reached the PCCh. It is therefore very difficult to imagine them participating in government or even supporting a transitional government. However, I think that the facts will force the PCCh to adopt a policy in keeping with the interests of the majority of Chileans and above all of the workers, who want peaceful change and do not want continued violence. The majority of Chileans want to live in peace and want to return to a united country in which there is a national blueprint. [passage omitted]

Union Report Electoral 'Pressure' on Peasants

PY2207014088 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Leaders of the Provincial Workers Front of the Christian Democratic party [Frente Provincial de Trabajadores de la Democracia Cristiana] in the Maule region have reported that pressure is being applied to peasant sectors in the area. Peasants are being warned that the way they vote in the plebiscite will become known by means of a fingerprint identification system.

Ildefonso Galaz, a leader of the Provincial Workers Front, has said that his organization has received formal reports, mainly from the Cobquecura and Ninhua communities, on people who drive official pickup trucks who are asking the peasants for their electoral registry cards and who are telling them that this information is being processed by computers and that their choice will become known as soon as they vote. [passage omitted]

Pinochet Attack Participant Held in Argentina

PY2107142688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] The Foreign Ministry has reported that it has not yet received from the Chilean courts a request for the extradition of three Chileans arrested in Argentina.

According to General Fernando Paredes, director of the Investigative Police Department, one of the arrested may be involved in the kidnapping of Colonel Carlos Carreno.

The information was provided by Foreign Ministry spokesman Carlos Ducci, who also said that the ministry learned about this case from the press and the Chilean consul in Argentina. [passage omitted]

Military Prosecutor Fernando Torres Silva said that one of the extremists arrested in Argentina was involved in the attack against President Augusto Pinochet. Torres Silva made this statement after meeting with Gen Paredes.

Torres Silva stated that the case of the three Chilean subversives arrested in Argentina was discussed during his meeting with Paredes. Torres also said that the links of the three subversives with the kidnapping of Col Carlos Carreno have not yet been established. Regarding the subversive involved in the attack against Pinochet, Torres explained that the man's identity has not yet been fully established.

Colombia

Barco Delivers Independence Day Address

PA2107042388 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2224 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Independence Day address by President Virgilio Barco to the Senate—live]

[Excerpts] Honorable Senators: At the beginning of the regular 1988 legislative session today, the people are looking forward to the national Congress with great anticipation.

The Colombian people are right in their thinking that these sessions are of special significance to our country. I am sure history will not forget this year's parliamentary debates because Colombia's future is at stake. I know you are aware of this historical challenge. The government will do everything in its power—without sacrificing its principles or breaking its pledge to change, a pledge made to the people—to maintain the spirit of understanding between the executive and legislative branches. We must work harmoniously to fulfill the goals of the state, as the Constitution decrees. [passage omitted]

I tell those who, without reason, demand that the government add fuel to the fire with repression that the better way—perhaps the only way—to achieve lasting peace is by reforming our political institutions, just as we are now doing. Let civilized opposition, rather than armed subversion, be the true alternative to the government. Let a new environment and participation make it possible for the oppressed and forsaken to peacefully express their views and democratically achieve the changes they deem necessary.

Regarding the debate on public order, it must be clearly stated that the strengthening of democracy is the most effective weapon to reach a final peace. [passage omitted]

The idea is to take advantage of the people who were trained in the preceding decades. It is imperative to find a new balance between tradition and change and between experience and well trained youths. I think one of the great responsibilities of a leader is to train new leaders. Only in this way will this leader's purpose and works be projected into the future.

Significant achievements are evident less than 2 years after I assumed office. We are not only advancing toward a new Colombia, but we are living in a new Colombia. We will detail the government's achievements. Let us see how we are rebuilding Colombia. Let us start with the increasingly complex situation of disturbed public order. Violence in Colombia has many aspects. Many of the aspects result from clearly differentiated processes that can become interrelated in certain cases and under certain circumstances. Drug trafficking has shown its destabilizing power, not only because of its own organization, but through its strategy of seeking allies who can later be treated as enemies, regardless of their political leanings. Drug traffickers only want these allies to agree, even if only temporarily, to pave the way for illegal activities.

Violence originates with the actions of subversive groups, some of which have become organized terrorists, as well as crimes perpetrated by bands of killers who indiscriminately attack political and other leaders of the people. We must admit that this situation is the result of a very long process in which our institutions became more and more formal and rigid. All of this made it impossible for the institutions to meet the Colombian people's basic needs and prevented them from timely transformation when it was necessary.

For some time, the handling of public order in Colombia has been constantly linked to a state of siege; however, specific and complex characteristics and violent situations have decreased the effectiveness of the traditional tools. When the forces that disrupt order are few and isolated, it is natural to be able to restore public order through a temporary limitation of certain rights. But when the sources of disturbance are diverse and spread, as in the case of multiple forms of violence that Colombia is facing today, when different groups are simultaneously participating in this violence, and when the acts that cause internal disturbances are more or less constant in certain regions, the policy to restore public order would be insufficient unless socioeconomic measures to normalize the citizens' lives are also taken.

This is the new public order concept that serves as a guideline for the government and that is based on Article 16 of the Constitution. According to this article, authorities not only must guarantee the lives, honor, and property of citizens, but also ensure compliance with social duties both by the state and the people. To fully comply with this constitutional mandate in the complex circumstances of disorder I have mentioned, the measures to strengthen justice as well as the investigative services and the Armed Forces must be aided by social programs and institutional reforms. It is in this context that the importance of the national reconstruction, normalization, and reconciliation plan can best be assessed. [passage omitted]

The strength of the military units have been increased by 20 percent since 7 August 1986. Now the military and police forces have more than 200,000 units in active service.

The budget needs of the Armed Forces have been taken care of so that they may fulfill their constitutional mission. While 4 years ago the approved budget could cover only 25 percent of the estimated Armed Forces expenditures, for 1988 Congress approved a budget that fully satisfies the basic functional requirements of the public force. This budget is for 30.4 billion pesos.

The Armed Forces know, and the country must also know, that the legitimate work of the military and police forces has always been able to count on the firm solidarity and support of my government. We must back the people who are ready to give their lives for Colombia. The people trust in the security that their military forces provide and in the efficiency with which they fulfill the task of defending our territory and our institutions.

However, this is a responsibility that must not fall only on the Armed Forces. The defense of society and democracy is a task of the entire community. All of us have work to do.

The struggle against drug trafficking and its associated criminal element is another matter that has been promoted by this administration. This task requires more than just police work. Because of its size and consequences on all areas of national life, this struggle is a vital matter for the state.

Human rights, especially the right to life and freedom of expression and the right to freely participate in politics, are being violated by drug traffickers. The most affected ones have been the leaders of the legal left, as current investigations show. The masterminds of many political crimes and of the massacres of defenseless peasants are drug traffickers.

Using the same channels and resources they use for their illegal commerce, the drug traffickers supply arms and other materiel to terrorists. The struggle against drug trafficking is not only a struggle against crime, it is also a battle for political tolerance, human rights, and democracy.

From 1 January to 14 July 1988, 3,657 suspected drug traffickers were arrested by the public forces. The public forces also seized 203 vehicles, 24 ships, 30 airplanes, 13,046 kg of cocaine, 2,209 kg of coca paste, and more than 312 tons of marijuana. The public forces also destroyed 293 drug processing laboratories and 39 airfields.

The struggle against drug trafficking is not a battle of words. It is a struggle that has entailed big sacrifices: the death of many policemen and soldiers, of officers and noncommissioned officers, of judges, of distinguished newsmen, of a justice minister, of a state attorney, and of 13 Supreme Court justices.

Terrorism is an evil of our days. It occurs in democratic countries. That is why no one should be surprised to know that this is an evil we share with countries such as Great Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, and Spain. Now it is beginning to appear in Canada.

The so-called National Liberation Army [ELN] and the M-19 have been carrying out typically terroristic activities. They want to create panic by creating the wrong idea that the life and property of the people can be endangered at any minute as a result of their actions. They want to sow terror among the majority and to create a psychological atmosphere of destruction and hopelessness.

They want the people to mistakenly believe that there is no way out of the problems the country is enduring. In doing so, they are undermining the most solid foundations of our democracy and economy.

During the past 12 months, the ELN has carried out more than 60 attacks on the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline, causing losses of more than $200 million, contaminating rivers and lakes, destroying plantations, and causing the loss of 300,000 barrels of oil. These attacks harm all Colombian people, because 85 percent of the oil exported belongs to the nation. [passage omitted]

In many international forums, we have urged the international community to analyze the Colombian problem from a realistic point of view. We are a democracy attacked by the terrorist actions of both the extreme right and the extreme left, by drug trafficking, and by common crimes, all of which are enemies that neither respect borders, government systems, nor society's overwhelming rejection of them.

Colombia was elected a member of the UN Human Rights Commission and a member of the UN Subcommission for the Prevention and Protection of Minorities by an immense majority. That was a clear recognition of our devotion to human rights and our commitment to their defense and protection.

Almost 5 million Colombians live in the isolated and downtrodden regions, which are now part of the national rehabilitation program. This government has focused its attention on those regions and their inhabitants through the reorganization of public spending. The money and resources to be used in those areas have been tripled. In previous years, those regions were allocated 4 percent of the national budget. Now we are earmarking 14 percent of the budget for those areas. In only 2 years, however, it is impossible to fulfill all the needs of the people, which are the product of years of neglect. We have therefore decided to make this a continuous, joint effort of the government and the entire country. This effort must continue in the years to come. We must not see the rehabilitation program as a simple remedy. It is much more than that. It is a program that will allow us to build a fairer and more harmonious Colombia, a country that will be less prone to violence and disorder.

Concerning the policy of reconciliation, first it is necessary to discuss the topic of the dialogue with the armed groups.

The national government has said several times that it will not refuse a dialogue provided minimum conditions exist. We are convinced that armed confrontation is not a desirable solution for Colombia. We must keep seeking political alternatives. We have also said this dialogue must conform to precise conditions and specific topics so progress can be made.

The reason for the dialogue must be based on taking the steps that lead to the disbanding of the armed groups. Naturally, this also entails the necessary guarantees. We said on 7 August 1986 that the rebels' reincorporation into normal life is a paramount objective. Otherwise, we would be dealing with an absurd cease-fire for an indefinite period and with no purpose at all. This would make reconciliation possible only in the distant future. Unfortunately, the actions of the armed groups themselves have hampered the search for ways to make progress in the dialogue. Clearly, the authorities cannot be expected to look indifferently on those who blackmail people, kidnap people, violently occupy towns, or ambush Armed Forces members.

The government will insist on dialogue as a means to seek a civilized solution. This means the government is not willing to tolerate some groups continuing their criminal or terrorist activities while talks are being held or appeals for an understanding are made. It is very easy to propose a dialogue to discuss the country's problems. It is easy to debate what the

government should or should not do. Because of the characteristics of our democracy, these are the topics all of us are interested in, including one of the country's basic concerns, the presence of armed groups. Why not talk about their existence, reason for being, methods, actions, and true intentions? Such a discussion could make it possible for a dialogue to lead to national reconciliation.

Because of this, the government will stay vigilant and take the necessary actions to guarantee the lives, honor, and properties of Colombians. If the rebel groups want peace, they must prove that with actions. They must suspend their actions to create the right climate because it is unacceptable to participate in a dialogue based on the threat of terrorism.

The national government is struggling on several fronts simultaneously. The promoters of violence work in many ways. Nevertheless, the causes, implications, and reasons for regional conflicts and disturbances can often be identified. If the factors provoking conflicts are examined more closely and isolated from the rest, they can be identified more easily. This is why we must insist on the possibility of a regional solution. Surely, and despite limited experience, regional solutions are more practical and faster than overall solutions. In addition, this novel approach will bring us closer to conditions leading to a future climate of harmony and coexistence.

Colombia's foreign policy and international relations cannot fall outside the process of modernization and change. The Liberal administration's foreign policy has been guided by the principle that the interests of the Colombian nation are above any emotional, partisan or routine considerations. The government has acted with realism and pragmatism based on the position that a technically directed economic policy, which is prudently formulated, active in the defense of the national interests, and supportive of the economic aspirations of the poor countries is essential for the defense of the country's interest. A country that is affected by poverty and unemployment is forced to follow economic adjustment policies that paralyze its growth and is vulnerable in the increasingly more competitive international markets. The evidence of the past 2 years clearly shows that the strength of our current international position is linked to a successful economic policy and to the impact of the strategy of a social economy.

The formulation of this administration's foreign policy goes beyond this. It is also a deliberate effort to increase the political leadership Colombia has developed within the regional and hemispheric context and to place this leadership at the service of peace, the defense of democracy, and the integration of Latin America. Without hesitation, Colombia has committed itself to the democratization process in the region. It has supported the autonomous efforts to solve conflicts and has repudiated obsolete attempts to intervene in the domestic affairs of other states. This is stipulated in the government program and the Liberal Party platform, which we have been fulfilling.

Our foreign policy is also a response to a world in transition. The simplistic approach of seeing it as a globe divided into two inevitable and exclusionist blocs is giving way to the wider vision that the international community is much more complex and diversified. It is a world in which new centers of economic development, political influence, technological innovation, and social organizations emerge. This demands a pragmatic attitude that will satisfy the interests of one's own state and will not be oriented to favor the interests of another country or group of countries, no matter how powerful they are.

Because we have sought to be participants in the new order and not passive spectators of the redistribution of international power, we have adopted our own positions, which are far from being identified as being in favor of or against one or another of the centers of world power. We must boldly face the opportunities provided by these times of change. Within the process of modification of the world arena, one of the fundamental aspects is the rapid emergence of the Pacific basin as a future center of international relations. The era of the Pacific is approaching. Because it belongs to the Pacific, Colombia must take advantage of the opportunities this area offers. The government has given special attention to this goal, as shown by the visit I made to several Pacific countries.

We are facing the emergence of a new Latin American foreign policy. In these times of vital challenges for Latin America, we are duty bound to promote cooperation, concerted efforts, and joint actions for the defense of common interests. Our foreign policy can at the same time show continuity and innovation in this permanent commitment. Overcoming obsolete phases, we have advanced in the direction of creating a Latin American front that, with serious and effective work, has rebuilt the desire for regional cooperation.

The Acapulco commitment for peace, development, and democracy was a concrete expression of the firm determination with which we are jointly working. This general framework of cooperation, which has already become historic, has guided our foreign policy. In this way, the Group of Eight has given invaluable international support in the consolidation of the democratization process. It has been an effective instrument in support of the Esquipulas II process. It has served to defend common interests in multilateral forums. It has strengthened the struggle to make the industrialized countries politically aware of the problem of the Latin American foreign debt. It has promoted bilateral and multilateral agreements for inter-regional economic cooperation and has condemned the unjust U.S. retaliations against our legitimate exports.

Colombia is firmly committed to the struggle against drug trafficking. The blood the country has spent is a dramatic testimony to the national commitment in the fight against this monstrous crime.

The blame and the cost are more widely distributed, but Colombia bears a great burden. In an unjust and unjustified manner, the problem of drug trafficking has been divided into two allegedly different and mutually exclusive segments: the users and the producers. The weight of blame has been unfairly placed on the producers.

This distinction is a fallacy, not only because some nations that were primarily consumers in the past have become producers of large amounts of some varieties of drugs, but also because the production, distribution, and use of drugs involve criminals and economic activities that are based and interact in a very broad network of countries. Because we are doing our part, we have the moral authority to demand that others do likewise.

I wish to explicitly mention the problem of drug abuse. There is a poorly disguised tolerance of this in industrialized countries. While the previously mentioned statistics on seizure and destruction of drugs in Colombia demonstrate the effectiveness of our authorities' actions, one needs only to glance at the main cities of the industrialized nations to see how drugs circulate with astounding ease, how the law treats users with benevolence, how the profits from drug trafficking nourish financial centers, and how budgets for the prevention and treatment of drug abuse are cut day after day.

Even more serious, the public is fed distorted and unjust images that legitimize the unequal treatment of the problem. Civil rights of the users in the industrialized nations cannot be more important than the democratic stability of the misnamed producer countries or than the lives and human rights of those countries' authorities, judges, newsmen, and citizens.

I pledged to attempt to modernize the relations between Colombia and the Holy See. It is an endeavor that even today has broad national support. We are convinced that the elimination of anachronistic restrictions on the state's mission, especially in the area of family rights, would simultaneously enhance the church's pastoral mission, the full existence of human freedoms, and the state's constitutional responsibilities. It is obvious that the great majority of Colombian people support us in this effort. We have no intention of undermining Catholic doctrine and faith in any way. We will only ensure that in this area, conditions in our country will be at least similar to those of other Catholic countries in Latin America and the rest of the world.

In conclusion, I must mention the changes that have been made at the institutional and technical levels in the infrastructure through which the country's foreign relations are managed. On the one hand, with understandable difficulties of various kinds, the government has begun to implement previously ignored regulations on careers in the diplomatic and foreign service. The practice of failing to comply with a law that does not favor those responsible for applying it is, to say the least, strange. Since day by day foreign policy has increasing importance in and influence on the country's life, we cannot afford the luxury of continuing to use the Foreign Ministry and the foreign service as a refuge or a springboard for personal interests by assigning benefits to favorites or by accommodating bureaucratic demands.

We are keeping the promises made in our platform. Recently, the fraternal Latin American countries made a gesture of recognition and praise for Colombia by choosing this country as their spokesman on the high-ranking stage of the UN Security Council. We are certain that the people who have benefitted from our government term enthusiastically share these achievements and the country's renewed international leadership.

The favorable results of the 13 March elections had a very clear message: the people's recognition of the government's achievements. In the first elections to be held within the system of government versus opposition parties, the Liberal Party received a historic show of support. This shows that the people have chosen once again the program of change promoted by my government, and therefore the changes will continue.

Honorable Senators, in less than 2 years, we have progressed significantly in the construction of a new Colombia. With your cooperation, we will consolidate the social, political, economic, institutional, and generational changes that we are implementing for the benefit of all Colombians. We have done our duty, and we will continue to do so. [applause]

Addresses House

PA2107013588 [Editorial Report] Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish at 2355 GMT on 20 July carries live coverage of a speech by President Virgilio Barco to the House of Representatives in Bogota on the occasion of Independence Day.

Barco begins by discussing the economic, social, and constitutional reforms that his government has implemented. He presents figures on production, employment, and exports and discusses how his government has improved the living conditions of Colombians. Barco says that he will continue to work for the improvement of government services. He discusses his efforts to reorganize the health and education sectors in order to make them more efficient. Barco also discusses the government's efforts to help children by fighting against poverty, malnutrition, and drug addiction.

In discussing the improvements in the country's infrastructure made during his government, Barco cites the development of telecommunications, the building of roads and electricity systems, and the increase in the supply of propane gas to families.

Then he discusses his relations with Congress. He says, "It is essential that the president have in Congress a sufficient majority to rule. It is essential that Congress receive the right information from the executive branch, experts, and spokesmen from various public sectors to

truly fulfill its legislative duties and maintain its political control." Discussing the role of the judicial branch, Barco says, "The judicial branch must also be included in the scheduled reforms of the relations among the three branches of government."

Barco concludes his address by saying that "The intricate process that will be responsible for the constitutional amending of the primary constituent [constituyente primario] of these chambers will show that a majority of leaders, regardless of their party or political influence, admit that it is not advisable to continue postponing a thorough and radical reform of our Constitution. Undoubtedly, the people also overwhelmingly support this initiative. The country, all its political, business, and civic leaders, as well as the people's organizations, agree on something that is basic: The state cannot be properly run with the existing limitations."

Gomez Hurtado Comments on Release by M-19

PA2107210088 Paris AFP in Spanish 1934 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Bogota, 21 Jul (AFP)—Colombian opposition leader Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, who was released by the leftist M-19 guerrillas in this capital last night, exclaimed today: "I am a free man; I did not bargain for my freedom."

Gomez, 69, a former senator, presidential candidate, and ambassador to Washington, held a large news conference at EL SIGLO newspaper, which he directs, to give the details of his kidnapping.

He had been held hostage since 29 May by M-19 guerrillas, who released him in Bogota yesterday. "This episode worried me from the viewpoint of what society might have paid for my release," he admitted.

The leader was returned after the M-19 began a dialogue with various Colombian sectors, excluding the government of Liberal President Virgilio Barco.

Gomez said he owes his release to the Colombian people. "It was the Colombians who released me," he said, adding that today was the first time in the past 54 days that "I saw sunlight again."

"My release was unconditional; I did not bargain for my freedom. I made no specific commitments based on the situation to which I was subjected," Gomez Hurtado said.

"I am the same person who was kidnapped 54 days ago. I have not changed," he said, adding: "I am made of a metal that does not wear down." He hailed the fact that everything ended well.

"There is a climate of war, a difficult, dirty war, and we cannot state exactly what it consists of," Gomez Hurtado said, on announcing that he will participate in the national dialogue with the guerrillas.

"I am a free man who is inclined to participate in that dialogue, which I did not propose," he said. He said that despite the situation of violence that prevails in the country, "there is a climate of reconciliation."

He defended the military forces and expressed regret that last month the guerrillas killed 17 soldiers in an attack in the town of El Bagre in the northwest.

Gomez commented on a poll taken in several Colombian cities, in which most of those consulted said they favored a get tough policy on the part of the Army toward the guerrillas.

However, he said that he supports a dialogue to clarify the good and bad things that could prevent the people from realizing their hopes for a successful outcome for the country.

Gomez called for seriousness [severidad] concerning the dialogue proposed by the guerrillas, which is scheduled to continue on 29 July in a place that is still undetermined, but could very well be the apostolic nuncio in Bogota.

The first session of the dialogue took place on 13 July in Panama.

It was attended by delegates of the political parties, industry, the working sector, and the church.

Saying his thinking has not been influenced by his experiences as an M-19 hostage, Gomez said he was "helpless for 53 days." He criticized the fact that a broad agrarian reform program had not been achieved in Colombia to help the country emerge from underdevelopment.

With his characteristic belligerence, Gomez said if he were in the government (he lost the May 1986 elections to President Barco), he would agree to the dialogue proposed by the guerrillas.

"Dialogue is the path to a solution of the crisis," he said.

Gomez called for more determination from the government, the political parties, and all Colombians to arrive at national reconciliation and said the Armed Forces cannot be left out of this effort.

Barco To Visit Ecuador; Invited to USSR in 1989

PA2107215688 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jul 88 p 7

[Text] President Virgilio Barco has officially accepted a recent invitation from Mikhail Gorbachev to visit the USSR next year.

However, no specific date for the trip has been set. Barco will thus become the first Colombian head of state to visit the USSR.

Meanwhile, the delegation that will accompany him on 10 August to the inauguration of new Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja was officially selected yesterday.

Venezuela's Jaime Lusinchi, Argentina's Raul Alfonsin, and Uruguay's Julio Maria Sanguinetti will also attend the ceremony.

The Colombian delegation is comprised of Eduardo Mestre, member of the Liberal National Directorate; Luis Carlos Galan, director of the New Liberalism and member of the Senate Foreign Relations Commission; Eduardo Montufar, representative of Narino; and Rafael Perez Davila, leader of Magdalena.

Barco will also be accompanied by Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes, who will later leave Quito for Brazil to participate in a Group of Eight meeting.

At this meeting an agenda will drafted for the second presidential meeting scheduled for 27 to 29 October in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

FARC Implicated in Large Drug Operation

PA2107223888 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 14 Jul 88 p 2-A

[Excerpts] Remolinos, Colombia—The cultivation and processing of coca in the jungle has radically changed the economy and the customs of the region in general and of Caqueta in particular. This is the opinion of Colonel Ignacio Grijalba, commander of the 12th Brigade, which is in charge of dismantling any new narcotics guerrilla camps discovered in the jungle.

Some 200,000 peasants who previously cultivated various types of crops are now being controlled by the narcotics guerrillas who force them to work for almost nothing. According to the high-ranking official, the inhabitants have returned to the archaic barter system because there is no money in the lower and middle Caguan region. Families obtain supplies in exchange for coca, and they use that product to purchase articles of clothing, drugs, and even farm equipment. The "snow" is even used as payment in brothels.

Thus, retailers and wholesalers accumulate this "merchandise," and then they sell it to the hundreds of buyers who come to Remolinos on Saturdays. They crystallize it and send it to the large consumer centers.

According to military sources, a FARC member participates in all cocaine operations to certify the transaction and receives 20,000 pesos per kilo. The colonel said: "If we eliminate the cocaine crops as we are obliged, how will all those people earn a living?"

Remolinos is located some 300 km south of Florencia, deep in the jungle, on the banks of the Caguan River, which eventually flows into the Caqueta River. It can be reached only by outboard or a small plane.

Military operations in the area are difficult because the region is so extensive. The coca plots are scattered over a sector of more than 500,000 hectares linked by rough pathways cut through the undergrowth. With the Army in the area, no one will bring the coca out. A situation of severe scarcity is expected, which would force the settlers to leave their lands and emigrate. [passage omitted]

The Caqueta governor's office has announced the initiation of a special development plan to be carried out as part of the national rehabilitation plan. It is an attempt, according to Col Grijalba, to "recover this region for the good of Colombian democracy."

Police Find Bodies of Kidnapped Italians

PA2207035888 Paris AFP in Spanish 2235 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Bogota, 21 Jul (AFP)—The cremated body of Italian Fidel Lillo Shifihnno—an executive of General American Pipe, a transnational oil company—was found in a pit in a mountainous region near the town of Sabana de Torres in the northeastern department of Santander, police reported today.

"His skull was crushed by a hammer," the police added.

Shifihnno was kidnapped on 3 June in Sabana de Torres, a peasant community where the company coordinates the exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons in the Magdalena region, where various guerrilla groups operate.

It has not been possible to confirm reports that along with Shifihnno, the police also found the body of Italian Jacobo Gambini, president of the Latin American division of General American Pipe, who was kidnapped by unidentified individuals a day before Shifihnno.

Nevertheless, it has been reported that the bodies of Shifihnno and Gambini were found in the same pit on the Las Palmeras farm, near the place where the double kidnapping took place.

The police reported they have arrested Colombian Jesus Adolfo Alvarez, the mastermind, and Bernabe Ramos and Eduardo Bautista, who "confessed they had committed the crime."

Briefs

Agreement Signed With GDR

Bogota, 19 Jul (AFP)—It has been officially announced that Colombia and the GDR signed a $30-million cooperation agreement by which Colombia will purchase agricultural equipment from the GDR. The total cost of the project is $44 million, of which $30 million will be financed by a GDR state bank, payable in 10 years with a 2-year grace period. The remaining $14 million will be financed by the Colombian Agrarian Fund. The agreement was signed by Agrarian Fund Manager Carlos Villamil and Eberhard Paul,

director general of the GDR's state enterprise Fortschritt Landmaschinen in the presence of GDR Ambassador to Colombia Heinz Loehn. [Excerpts] [*PA2107212488 Paris AFP in Spanish 0428 GMT 20 Jul 88*]

Ecuador

Members of Future Borja Cabinet Announced

PA2107162888 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] This afternoon the Democratic Left [ID] officially announced the names of the cabinet members of the future Rodrigo Borja administration, having based its selection on the lists provided by the Popular Democracy Party [DP], which will govern the country with the ID beginning on 10 August.

The Education Ministry will be headed by Alfredo Vera Arrata and the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry will be headed by (Enrique Vergara Coppiano), both of the orange party [nickname of the ID]. Juan Jose Pons, former DP vice presidential candidate, will head the Industry, Commerce, Integration, and Fisheries Ministry.

Juan Pablo Moncagatta, member of the green arrow party [nickname of the DP], will head the Housing Bank. Absalon Rocha will be the general manager of the National Development Bank. The general secretary of public administration will be economist Washington Herrera and SENDIP [National Secretariat for Public Information] will be headed by Gonzalo Ortiz Crespo.

The government, energy and mines, and labor ministers have yet to be confirmed.

New Police Commander; 4 Colonels Promoted

PA2107172888 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] A ceremony will be held at the National Police Institute at 0900 today to mark the change of the Police High Command and the promotion of four police colonels to general. President Leon Febres-Cordero will preside over the ceremony, at which present Police Commanding General Milton Andrade Davila will relinquish command of the institution to General Victor Hugo Londono.

The colonels who will be promoted to general are Wilfrido Ayala, Galo Sumarraga Espinoza, Gabriel Constante Gavilanes, and Eduardo Villas Galarza. They have met the requirements of the National Police Personnel Law.

The Police High Command is being restructured in the wake of the retirement of Commanding General Milton Andrade Davila and Generals Luis Rueda Bedoya, Byron Pinto, Rafael Jaramillo, Fausto Bravo, and Guillermo Jijon. They have completed the period of active service established in the police law.

The colonels who will be promoted today will join Enrique Mera Davila, Guillermo Chavez, and Ramiro Garzon at the rank of general.

Peru

Shining Path's Morote Acquitted in Court

PY2107031388 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Prosecutor Dora Altamirano is astonished at the acquittal of Osman Morote Barrionuevo, the number two man in the Shining Path terrorist group, in Second Lima Court. Altamirano said she will request the Supreme Court of Justice to annul the Second Lima Court's decision.

The court's decision was approved by Justices Otto Suazo Villa Garcia and Maximo Antezana Espinar, who accepted the plea submitted by the defense. This plea is based on the repeal of the law that condemned the defense of terrorism. [sentence as heard]

However, comrade Remigio [Morote] has other pending trials. On Monday, he will go to the 11th Court to answer other charges of terrorism.

Soria on Morote Acquittal; Urges New Laws

PY2207032888 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Interior Minister Admiral Juan Soria Diaz requested that Congress pass laws that will give the executive and judicial branches the legal instruments to adequately punish the escalation of aggressions committed daily by terrorists and other criminals against the state of law.

The interior minister said that this situation of violence has cost more than 12,000 innocent victims and property damage amounting to nearly 50 percent of our foreign debt.

Paradoxically, 95 percent of those criminals arrested for terrorism are set free, as in the recent case of Osman Morote Barrionuevo, who was acquitted by the Second Lima Court on charges brought by the Interior Ministry.

This case has deeply frustrated the population, but we will firmly continue in our struggle against crime and subversion, the interior minister said during a news conference at Government House.

[Begin Soria recording] The survival of democracy and of the state of law demands that appropriate laws with which to preserve the system of life be chosen by all Peruvians.

Therefore, the state has the undeniable duty of complying with this need; and when I refer to the state, I am referring to all the state branches, mainly the legislative branch.

I request that the legislative branch pass laws that will enable us, first, to face with firmness and success this new escalation of aggressions by the genocidal terrorism against the state of law; and second, to give confidence to the population by effectively protecting life and property and by showing that those who violate the law will be strictly punished.

These punishments must not only be for those who carry out the crimes as simple instruments of genocidal terrorism, but also for those who somehow encourage, plan, finance, and conduct the aggressions.

Evidence of this situation occurred in our courts yesterday, when our justices accepted the plea submitted by the defense of Osman Morote, the number two man in the Shining Path terrorist group, based on the fact that the crimes he is accused of are not legally specified and that the evidence submitted in his case is insufficient to try him.

This demonstrates that the weakness of our legal system lies in the absence of a legal framework that allows the justices to clearly mete out punishment according to the seriousness of the crimes. [end recording]

CGTP-Sponsored Strike 'Almost Unnoticed'

PY2107123588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] On its second day, the CGTP [General Confederation of Peruvian Workers] strike went almost unnoticed. A greater number of workers were able to get to their places of work after urban bus service was partially restored.

At factories the rate of absenteeism was negligible, and the police forces fully complied with their duty by repressing some outbreaks of violence. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Comments

PY2107140588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Concerning the strike sponsored by the CGTP, Prime Minister Armando Villanueva del Campo has said that Peruvians understand that the country needs to work. This is why the nation has flatly rejected this strike and why a large number of workers went to their places of work.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What is your opinion on this strike, Mr Minister?

[Villanueva] Well, strikes must not be used as a political tool. Strikes are an approved tool with which to defend the rights of the workers. Strikes are an extreme but respectable tool when used to struggle for rights. However, as a political tool with the intention of sabotaging democracy, they must be rejected, as the Peruvian people are doing now.

[Reporter] Would you call the CGTP-sponsored strike a failure?

[Villanueva] I did not want to use that term yesterday because it was a trade union organization that sponsored the strike. However, I must use the term today because all available reports indicate that the Peruvian people have responsibly rejected this political provocation that has, I repeat, nothing to do with a claim on the rights of the workers.

[Reporter] There are reports that several people are being held by DIRCOTE [Anti-Terrorist Directorate]. Are they involved in terrorism?

[Villanueva] Perhaps. However, I do not have direct information from DIRCOTE so that ...

[Reporter, interrupting] Where are they now?

[Villanueva] I do not know. I believe that people were detained following some acts of violence. However, I image that if the cause for their detention is not serious, they will be released later, right?

There have, however, been serius attacks in (Depalma) and Pozuzo. In those attacks several people were killed by the Shining Path organization, which, as usual, conducted treacherous attacks. Troops were deployed in helicopters and have dispersed the attackers. [end recording]

Labor Minister on Situation

PY2107194088 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Speech by Labor Minister Orestes Rodriguez Campos; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] The data received today by the Labor Ministry Center of Statistics and Computation indicate that on 20 July the number of workers who performed their normal duties increased. Overall, 74.6 percent of the workers showed up for work. In Lima, 73.3 percent of the workers showed up for work, and in the other cities 79.5 of the workers showed up.

The figures are: Arequipa, 78.2 percent; Trujillo, 92.5; Iquitos, 92.1; Piura, 91.5; Talara, 98.5; Chiclayo, 84.7; Chimbote, 66.9; Huancayo, 83.9; Cerro de Pasco, 18.3; Pucalpa, 81.4; Ica, 89.2; Cusco, 87.1; Puno, 77.2; Ilo, 94.4; and Tacna, 79.7. The highest percentage was in Talara, 98.5, and the lowest percentage in Cerro de Pasco, 18.3. [passage omitted]

We can also tell you that the strike was peaceful except for a few demonstrations. [passage omitted]

I congratulate and thank the workers for their behavior. Strikes are events with social repercussions; they are part of the republican life of a country. We will, therefore,

continue to hold meetings with the unions to discuss labor problems and study the solutions that may actually help the workers. [passage omitted]

We must tell the Peruvian people that we will continue to work, and we must ask them to join us in an important national accord, which can be represented by a beautiful instrument called the national economic congress [congreso economico nacional]. At this national congress we can sit down to discuss all national goals. Private companies, state-owned companies, associated companies, companies with mixed capital or foreign capital—all must sit around a table to study the national goals and help find solutions to the crisis. [passage omitted]

We must look after the workers' salaries and use production to maintain the balance between salaries and prices. If there is no production, if there is no work, the entire economic process starts to deteriorate and the inflationary process starts to accelerate.

For this reason, I belive the workers' attitude was responsible. I do not want to view the attitude of the workers as a government triumph. This strike is a socio-economic fact that should be analyzed by the politicians, by the union leaders, and by the government itself. The fact that 25 percent of the population has protested means that the workers want to call the government's attention to the economic situation.

High Court: Strike Illegal

PY2207035688 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] We have made telephone contact with Dr Bernardo del Aguila, the secretary general of the Peruvian Supreme Court.

[Reporter] Good evening, Dr Del Aguila, we would like to hear the report you have for the entire nation.

[Del Aguila] Good evening. In a regular hearing in open court today, the Peruvian Supreme Court handed down the following ruling:

1. To thoroughly and resolutely support the president of the Supreme Court [as heard] concerning the conduct and appropriate handling of this problem, the problem of the workers strike.

2. To declare illegal the general and indefinite strike sponsored by the Sole Trade Union of Peruvian Workers [as heard] [words indistinct] of Monday, 18 July.

3. To grant a 48-hour final deadline to the workers who are still observing the strike to go back to work; otherwise, the appropriate measures will be taken, including the dismissal of those workers who do not show up at work for more than 3 consecutive days; and

4. To grant broad facilities to the workers who are performing their duty.

This is the content of the ruling handed down in open court today.

[Reporter] Does this become effective today?

[Del Aguila] Correct.

[Reporter] Does the 48-hour deadline become effective next Monday or tomorrow, Friday?

[Del Aguila] On Monday.

[Reporter] On Monday?

[Del Aguila] Correct.

[Reporter] Dr Del Aguila, thank you very much for your information. Good evening.

Gonzalez on Regional Integration Meeting

PY2107113588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Luis Gonzales Posada has said that the first Encounter for Latin American Unity, which will begin tomorrow following a suggestion of President Alan Garcia, will represent a serious effort by the representatives of the 32 regional organizations to attain the integration of our peoples. He also referred to President Alan Garcia's upcoming trip to Uruguay.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Minister, is there any trip abroad scheduled for this year on the president's agenda?

[Gonzalez] He will travel to Punta del Este in October, to the second presidential summit of the Group of Eight.

[Reporter] Is any other trip planned beside that one?

[Gonzalez] No.

[Reporter] What position will Peru maintain during that summit?

[Gonzalez] The same position we have always maintained: a solid position of Latin American unity. Speaking of this, there will be an important event at Government House tomorrow. The president has organized the first Encounter for Latin American Unity, with the participation of 32 important regional organizations like SELA, ALADI, and ECLA.

The Latin American integration process will be analyzed during this meeting. We must make a strong effort to confirm our integration principles.

The Costa Rican foreign minister will arrive on an official visit tomorrow, while the Uruguayan foreign minister is scheduled to arrive tomorrow night. He is also the acting president of the Cartagena Agreement.

Therefore, this means that this will be a very active week for the foreign affairs field. However, the fundamental emphasis will be on the effort and serious work for an understanding that will be made by all the regional organizations and all those of us who are interested in confirming Latin American integration and unity as a vital aspect to the resolution of our continental problems. [end recording]

Garcia Opens Session

PY2207011988 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Speech by President Alan Garcia at the opening of the first "Encounter for Latin American Unity" at the Tupac Amaru Hall in Government House on 21 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] With a deep Latin American conviction, I welcome you, representatives of the most important integration organizations of our continent, which, from different technical aspects, contribute to our continental unity.

I am sure that this meeting, to which you have generously agreed to attend, will give us the chance to coordinate all of our respective projects and to harmoniously integrate these works of all the integration mechanisms and instruments available on our continent. [passage omitted]

It is important to consider that our integration efforts must take into account the great world economic problem which also affects the seven great world powers.

I think that 1989 could be the year of the great Latin American dialogue with the United States of America. We must negotiate each situation. We cannot speak of the world capitalistic system; we cannot speak of the industrialized countries. Whether we like it or not, all Latin Americans are part of one hemisphere. However, we are a defined continent. We are speakers, and it is our duty to speak with maturity and serenity, yet without emotion, about the important subjects of our continent with the United States, which is, whether we like it or not, the leader of the industrialized and technologically developed countries.

I am sure that this will not be the only encounter. There will be others which, little by little, will consolidate the mechanism of our continental integration.

I am sure that we will be able to discuss subjects like regional trade and its increase, and to reverse its current trend. We will be able to again discuss foreign debt policies and to further impose our will and rights. We must coordinate our actions so as to not duplicate our efforts.

I congratulate and welcome you to your task, and exhort you to continue strengthening the possibilities of our continental integration. Thank you. [applause]

Mining Official Discusses Project in PRC

PY2107145988 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Mines and Energy Deputy Minister (Sanchez Basolar) is currently heading a Peruvian delegation in the PRC to discuss Chinese investments in Peru. The investments mostly relate to the (Horohuaycos) mining project.

This trip is being made within the framework of the Mines and Energy Ministry's policy of attracting foreign capital. This is the third contact Deputy Minister (Sanchez) has made with Asian markets, which include the PRC, Japan, South Korea, and Hong Kong, in less than 1 year.

The aim of his visits is not only to discuss exports and investments, but also the transfer of technology.

Suriname

Netherlands Development Minister Arrives

FL2007184688 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] The Dutch minister of development cooperation, Piet Bukman, yesterday arrived in Suriname for a second round of discussions on the development cooperation relations between Holland and Suriname. The daily DE WARE TIJD announced that Holland will this year make 80 million Dutch guilders available to Suriname and next year a further 200 million.

Bukman will hold discussions with, among others, Vice President Henck Arron and Foreign Affairs Eddy Sedoc. Preparations for the discussions (?by an) official commission [words indistinct].

Agreement on Aid

FL2107181288 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Holland has decided to give Suriname a certain amount in aid to tie the country over the period until the macroeconomic long-term plan will have been presented. This is contrary to what it is stated in the development cooperation treaty which was signed in 1975 by Holland and Suriname and has been resumed since the 3d of May this year.

During a press conference this morning, Vice President Arron clarified that a long-term development plan of the government will be the basis of the treaty. The development plan of the government however comes from the 1st of October this year and that is why Holland has decided to give 60 million Dutch guilders in short-term aid to Suriname this year. Apart from this, Suriname can spend 18 million guilders on input for all the new projects, including the reconstruction of the interior. The total aid for this year is 78 million guilders while for next year already 40 million guilders have been set aside in short-term aid.

The Dutch minister of development cooperation, Piet Buckman, said that Holland is of the opinion that it can make 200 million guilders available to Suriname next year and the years after. It's however necessary for Holland to know about the long-term development plan of Suriname, according to Buckman. The short-term aid will be spent on essential imports such as primary goods and medicine, although the short-term aid will be used for industrial financing and rehabilitation of infrastructural wealth.

The Dutch minister of development cooperation [words indistinct] disagreement and (?visited) 2 days in Suriname. He left the country today.